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*COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS*

# Trinidad & Tobago

## 1947



*LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE*

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# ANNUAL REPORT ON TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, B.W.I. FOR THE YEAR 1947

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LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1949

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## ANNUAL REPORT

ON

### COLONY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FOR THE YEAR 1947

#### PART I

1. A review of events in Trinidad and Tobago during 1947 calls for reference to the change of Governors which occurred during the year. On 7th March 1947, with traditional ceremony welcome was extended to the newly-appointed Governor, Sir John Shaw, C.M.G., who arrived on that date in succession to the Honourable Sir Bede Clifford, G.C.M.G., C.B., M.V.O., who had retired.

2. Sir John Shaw was the recipient of seven addresses of welcome respectively from the Legislative Council, the Port-of-Spain City Council, the Civil Service Association, the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce, the Trade Union Council, the Union of Friendly Societies, and ex-servicemen of World War I.

#### *Disturbances :*

3. Early in 1947 the rhythm of industrial life in the Colony was disrupted by labour disturbances which occurred in Port-of-Spain and in the oil belt. By mid-January large oilfield fires clearly caused by sabotage were occurring with frequency. To meet the situation an Emergency Powers Bill was introduced in the Legislature on 17th January and passed through all its stages empowering the Governor to proclaim a state of emergency and to take the necessary security measures. On the 18th January the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency in the County of St. Patrick where most of the oilfields are located. Emergency regulations (i) imposed a curfew between 8 o'clock at night and 5 o'clock in the morning effective from 20th January in the ward of La Brea only ; (ii) provided for immediate safety measures regarding oil wells and water reservoirs ; (iii) banned Tubal Uriah Buzz Butler, President-General of the British Empire Workers, Peasants and Ratepayers' Union from the County St. Patrick after 19th January.

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4. On 19th January Butler arrived in Port-of-Spain followed by men and women from the south numbering several hundreds who continued to arrive throughout Monday 20th January at Butler's headquarters at St. Joseph Road, Port-of-Spain. On Tuesday 21st January the police made several arrests because of various intimidatory acts levelled at Port-of-Spain Corporation's transport and at other workers. By eight o'clock the same morning demonstrators began a march to Government's headquarters at the "Red House" and, eluding the attempts at interception by the police gained entry to the Council Chamber and Secretariat Office there. The police persuaded them to leave the building and eventually dispersed the mob. Following these incidents a state of emergency was proclaimed applicable to the whole Colony, exclusive of Tobago.

5. In consequence the Secretary of State for the Colonies appointed Mr. F. W. Dalley, an English trade union official of long experience, to visit Trinidad with the following terms of reference: "In view of the recent strikes and disturbances in Trinidad, to visit that Colony for informal discussions with the various parties concerned regarding trade union organisation and the state of industrial relations generally".

6. Mr. Dalley arrived on 3rd April, and was in the Colony for two and a half months. His report which was published some time after his return to the United Kingdom contained valuable recommendations and criticisms and met with a good reception by the community at large.

#### *Constitutional Reform :*

7. The two dominant themes which permeated political thought in the Colony during the year were (i) Constitutional Reform, and (ii) Closer Association of the British West Indies. Shortly before the assumption of office by Sir John Shaw, a committee of 20 ladies and gentlemen had been set up under the Chairmanship of Sir Lennox O'Reilly, K.C., to consider reform of the Constitution of the Colony. By the end of 1947 this committee had not submitted its final report, but it was generally expected that the divergence of views known to be held among those who served on the committee would lead to the presentation of majority and minority reports early in the new year.

8. Closer Association of the British West Indies advanced beyond the embryonic stage when the 14 resolutions of the Montego Bay Conference were adopted in September 1947. The Legislative Council of Trinidad and Tobago was the first of the Colonial Legislatures to approve the 14 resolutions in principle and to adopt them virtually as they stood. Further advancement awaits the recommendations of the Standing Closer Association Committee which is to be set up to consider the next steps along that road.

*Revenue :*

9. The total estimated revenue for the year 1947 was \$28,903,451. The revised estimated revenue was \$35,949,971 being \$7,046,520 more than the original estimate.

The main increases appeared under the following heads :—

Head 1—Customs and Excise	...	...	\$4,428,600
Head 2—Licences	...	...	371,304
Head 3—Tax on Incomes	...	...	2,000,000
Head 9—Interest	...	...	157,629
Head 10—Miscellaneous	...	...	265,000
Head 15—Grants under Colonial Development and Welfare Act	...	...	120,834

*Expenditure :*

10. The approved estimate of expenditure for the year 1947 was \$29,485,800, not including expenditure on development schemes. The revised expenditure was \$37,250,239 being \$7,763,439 more than estimated. A substantial part of this expenditure in excess of the approved estimate was accounted for by supplemental votes for subsidization of certain foodstuffs and increased temporary war allowances payable to all classes of Government employees as a result of the increase in the cost of living index figure. The bulk of the remainder was accounted for under Health Services, Public Works Annually Recurrent and Extraordinary, and Miscellaneous Services. The revised estimated deficit on the year's working was \$1,300,268 being \$717,919 more than the original estimate.

11. A memorandum showing progress of certain development schemes in the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago up to 1947 revealed, *inter alia* :—

SCHEMES FINANCED WHOLLY FROM DEVELOPMENT AND  
WELFARE FUNDS :

*Training of junior personnel in 4-H Club work in the West Indies :*

12. This scheme is wholly financed from Development and Welfare funds and is now completed. The amount approved was \$2,302 and the actual expenditure on the scheme was \$2,308.

13. More than 40 clubs are in operation and, as a result of the experience gained in organizing those clubs, a unified policy report on the agricultural education of the 10-15 age range through group activity connected with the school is under consideration.

*Tuberculosis Survey :*

14. This scheme was approved in 1942. The implementation of the recommendations of Dr. W. S. Gilmour, tuberculosis specialist, whose survey lasted from July 1943 to April 1945, are now in progress. Dr. Branday assumed duties as Chief Tuberculosis Officer on 22nd April 1947. The sanatorium at Caura is nearing completion.

*Inspection of Medical Laboratories, British West Indies :*

15. Actual expenditure on the scheme at the 31st March, 1946 was \$874.30. The estimated total expenditure at the 30th June 1947 was \$960.70.

SCHEMES FINANCED WHOLLY FROM LOCAL FUNDS INCLUDING FUNDS  
TO BE RAISED BY LOAN :

16. *Land Settlement* :—(This scheme is being financed wholly from local funds). During the period November 1946 to October 1947 the Land Settlement Committee which directs the business of land settlements was strengthened by the addition of another member in the person of the Director of Works and Hydraulics. The personnel of the committee is now the Director of Agriculture, Chairman ; the Director of Medical Services, the Director of Works and Hydraulics, the Conservator of Forests, the Sub-Intendant of Crown Lands, and the Under Secretary, members.

17. The progress made during this period is greater than is reflected by the number of families actually recorded as settled during that time. Development of settlement sites with a larger acreage and a greater number of holdings has made more progress than at any other period in the history of land settlement scheme, and the demand for these lands still exceeds the present supply. At the Munroe Road Settlement, where over 250 holdings were available, local differences of opinion delayed allocation to those people for whom the settlement was originally intended. In spite of this, the number of holdings allotted on new settlements throughout the Colony was 140.

18. Additional sites acquired for settlement during the year comprised

- (a) three estates in the Maracas Valley totalling 1,899 acres ;
- (b) a portion of the " Bamboo Grove " formerly occupied by the Nelson Paper Pulp Company, totalling some 400 acres, and
- (c) the Louis d'Or Estate, Tobago, containing 609 acres.

Areas (a) and (b) have been surveyed, layout plans prepared and approved, and development started. At Maracas Valley, nearly one mile of roadway has been built and a pipe-borne water supply laid along the roads. The development of pasture, recreation ground and other reserves is now to be undertaken.

19. There has been an improvement in cultivation methods attributable partly to the greater demand and higher cash value of the food crops grown, and partly to the example and education being afforded by the establishment of demonstration plots on some settlements. Greater interest is being shown in the keeping of livestock, and encouragement is being given by Government by the establishment of stock breeding units either on the settlements or on nearby centres.

20. Settlers largely continue to market their produce individually, in many cases utilising the marketing depots of the Department of Agriculture for this purpose. On the other hand, an example of co-operative marketing is that of the disposal of milk from the La Pastora Settlement. The organization is now facing problems of the early life of co-operative effort, but is making slow and steady progress.

#### *Cocoa Rehabilitation :*

21. The cocoa rehabilitation scheme began in 1944 and is financed from local funds. Another step forward has been made in implementing the recommendations of a Committee appointed to enquire into the needs of the cocoa industry. Provision is made for the substitution of a programme of mixed farming and alternative cropping on lands considered unsuitable for cocoa replanting. Applications to participate in this part of the scheme have been invited and the programmes of some 200 applicants have been received and are being considered by the Cocoa Board.

22. The replanting of cocoa on approved estates was continued during the past season when 100,000 high-yielding plants of clonal cocoa were distributed to proprietors in Trinidad and Tobago. Of this amount 75,000 were applied to new plantings and 25,000 were issued as replacements for losses suffered during the unprecedented drought which the colony experienced earlier in the year.

#### *Training of Surveyors from the West Indies in Canada :*

23. This colony has continued to participate in the scheme by sending two surveyors to Toronto each year, but unlike the other colonies where the cost of training is met by a grant from Imperial funds, the cost of training amounting to \$6,240 per annum is borne by the local government.

24. For the 1946-47 course two officers were sent to Toronto and at the completion of the nine months' course these officers passed the prescribed examination with an average of 95 per cent. and 70 per cent. respectively. The former, who topped the list of West Indies students at the examination, was placed first in nine out of ten subjects, gaining 100 per cent. in spherical trigonometry, least squares and adjustment of triangulation problems and 98 per cent. in practical astronomy, geodesy and photographic surveying.

25. The courses at Toronto have proved to be an unqualified success in raising the qualifications of the officers themselves and in the benefit and efficiency derived by the departments to which they belong.

*Primary Education :*

26. Developments in this direction have so far been financed from local funds. The congestion in schools resulting from the colony-wide application of the Compulsory Attendance Ordinance and the natural increase in population has focussed attention on the necessity for an extensive building programme. A comprehensive survey has been prepared by the Department of Education, and its suggested building programme under a five-year development scheme contains proposals for the erection of 39 new Government schools, extensions to 41 Government and assisted primary schools, and the rebuilding of 86 assisted primary schools. This scheme is now under consideration by Government.

*Technical Education and Practical Instruction :*

27. Again, developments have been financed so far from local funds. At present technical instruction proper falls within the province of the Board of Industrial Training, a statutory body instituted for that purpose and the regulation of apprenticeship ; but its functions in technical education will be assumed by the Department of Education on the appointment of an Assistant Director (Technical) of Education. The creation of this post has been approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and application has been made for assistance under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act to supplement the salary provided in order to obtain an officer of the highest qualifications. Meanwhile, the Assistant Adviser on Technical Education to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare has made a preliminary survey of the colony's requirements, and proposals for the erection of two technical schools, at Port-of-Spain and San Fernando respectively, have been included in the tentative building programme. The Comptroller for Development and Welfare has supported, in principle, an application for a grant towards the capital cost of these buildings.

*Improved Sanitation and Water Supplies :*

28. In accordance with the recommendations of the West India Royal Commission, Government has agreed to bear the full cost of improved water supplies and modern sanitary systems in assisted schools. A considerable number of such schools have benefited under this arrangement, and liberal provision for further developments has been requested in the proposed building programme.

*Slum Clearance and Housing :*

29. The main housing settlements are located at Morvant approximately 4 miles to the east of Port-of-Spain, and at Mon Repos, Navet and Broadway within the Borough of San Fernando.

30. The Slum Clearance and Housing Ordinance makes provision with respect, *inter alia*, to the housing of persons of the working classes. The Planning and Housing Commission which was constituted under this Ordinance had up to the end of 1947 constructed :—

- 793 houses of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom designs at Morvant ;
- 90 houses of 1 bedroom design at St. James ;
- 4 flats of 1 bedroom design at Mucurapo ; and
- 228 flats of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom designs in Port-of-Spain.

31. In addition the Commission had constructed in the south of the island :—

- 72 flats of 1 and 3 bedroom designs in San Fernando ;
- 402 houses of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom designs at Mon Repos and Navet ;
- 52 houses of 2 and 3 bedroom designs at Broadway ;
- 51 houses of 2 bedrooms each at Hubertstown ; and
- 20 houses of 2 bedrooms each at Siparia.

Accommodation for 1,712 families has so far been provided.

32. To complete the slum clearance programme an additional 390 flats in Port-of-Spain and 112 in San Fernando will be constructed, and investigations with a view to providing additional accommodation in the Docksite area in Port-of-Spain are being conducted.

#### *Rural Housing Schemes :*

33. The services necessary for two rural housing schemes at Caroni and Williamsville, the lands for which were granted to Government free of cost by the respective sugar companies operating in those areas, were at the end of September, 1947, practically completed except for the installation of the necessary water supplies, but no houses have yet been built there.

34. In both schemes, the cost of development of which is being borne by Government, reservations have been made for recreation grounds, community centres, churches, schools, cinemas and health clinics.

35. A committee for each scheme was appointed to select tenants who would be required to build their own houses under lease and the committee for the Caroni Scheme was actively engaged during the year. This committee carried out a housing survey of 100 families dwelling in barracks at Caroni whose rehousing on the new settlement is one of the primary objects of the scheme. The survey has provided useful data in connection with the ability of the agricultural labourer to improve his housing conditions which can be applied to those living in similar conditions in other parts of the colony.

*Drainage and Reclamation Projects, Caroni Irrigation Scheme :*

36. Progress on this scheme during 1947 has been well maintained and a further 400 acres of rice land have been prepared for irrigation, planted and are under crop. The total area of rice land irrigated was 1,700 acres and it is possible to extend this in the future to approximately 2,300.

37. The dry season of 1947 was abnormally deficient in rainfall, and the rainy season has been much below the average; the result has been that the irrigation service was extended almost beyond its capacity and it has been necessary to consider an increase in the supply to satisfy requirements in a very dry season.

38. The diversion weir at the headworks has proved too small to pass the flood water of the river safely, and it is proposed to reconstruct it with an enlarged weir crest and provision for approximately doubling the supply of irrigation water.

39. *Oropouche Lagoon*.—A comprehensive scheme of drainage and irrigation has been prepared for Oropouche Lagoon whereby approximately 23,000 acres of rice and cane lands will receive benefit.

Other schemes are dealt with more fully in Part II of this Report.

*General :*

40. "In Trinidad and Tobago there appeared in the first half of 1947 signs of an impending return, economically speaking, to what are loosely and euphemistically termed "pre-war conditions"—which, incidentally, were anything but ideal for large sections of the human family. The dried-up stream of imported capital and consumer goods began to trickle again, if not to flow. There was a more cheerful feeling in the air. This was shortlived, and in July or August we were roughly disillusioned. The so-called economic crisis and the acute difficulties of the Sterling Area in relation to dollar exchange were brought to our attention with the surprising and painful impact of an air raid."

41. The above words were spoken by His Excellency the Governor, who continued: "No one can predict how long this phase will persist, whether things will get worse before they get better, and consequently we shall be wise and prudent if we resign ourselves to enduring, with such fortitude and patience as we possess, greater inconveniences in the near future than we have experienced in the past."

42. To grapple with the new problems that arose out of the economic crisis, a strong representative committee was appointed towards the end of September 1947, "to consider the whole broad field of finance, economics, production and development in the colony". The committee immediately tackled its task and by the end of the year its industries sub-committee had submitted a report regarding the development of industries, while the agricultural and finance sub-committees had submitted interim reports. The completion of the full report in 1948 should go a long way towards providing a plan for the economic development of the colony especially in regard to its budgetary, agricultural and industrial aspects.

## PART II

### Chapter I : Population

43. According to the Census taken on the 9th April, 1946, the population of the Colony was 557,970 persons, of whom Trinidad contained 530,809 and Tobago 27,161. In 1931, the total population was 412,783 of whom 387,425 were in Trinidad and 25,358 in Tobago. The increase in 15 years was 35.2 per cent. The population on 31st December 1947, was estimated to be 586,700.

44. The following table shows the population of the principal towns and county divisions and waters of the Colony as ascertained by the Census taken for the years 1931 and 1946 and as estimated at 31st December, 1947.

	<i>Census</i> 1931	<i>Census</i> 1946	<i>Estimated</i> 31st Dec., 1947
City of Port-of-Spain (now inclusive of St. James which was included in the City from 1st June 1938)	70,334	92,793	97,571
Town of San Fernando ... ..	14,353	28,842	30,328
Borough of Arima ... ..	5,085	8,069	8,484
County of St. George (exclusive of Port-of-Spain and Arima) ...	85,904	137,947	145,050
<b>Eastern Counties :</b>			
Mayaro ... ..	4,037	4,196	4,412
Nariva ... ..	10,809	11,815	12,423
St. Andrew ... ..	23,337	23,285	24,484
St. David ... ..	5,664	5,037	5,296
County of Caroni ... ..	51,098	61,739	64,919
County of Victoria (exclusive of San Fernando) ... ..	60,086	87,383	91,883
County of St. Patrick ... ..	46,531	69,170	72,731
Ward of Tobago ... ..	25,358	27,161	28,559
Waters of the Colony ... ..	1,089	533	560
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>412,783</b>	<b>557,970</b>	<b>586,700</b>



*Marriages :*

45. The number of marriages recorded during 1947 was 3,288 of which 2,809 were contracted under the Marriage Ordinance 188 under the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Ordinance, and 291 under the Hindu Marriage Ordinance. The marriage rate per thousand of the entire population was 11.38 as compared with 11.48 in 1946 and 12.22 in 1945.

*Births :*

46. The number of births registered during 1947 was 22,344 of which 11,321 were boys and 11,021 were girls. The birth rate per thousand was 38.68 as compared with 38.64 in 1946 and 39.15 in 1945. For the five years period 1943 to 1947 the mean rate was 38.68.

*Deaths :*

47. The total number of deaths registered in 1947 was 7,828, of which 4,146 were males and 3,682 females. The death rate per thousand was 13.55 as compared with 13.73 in 1946 and 14.42 in 1945. For the five years period 1943 to 1947 the mean rate was 14.61.

*Infantile Mortality :*

48. The number of children who died before completing their first year was 1,820 of whom 927 were boys and 783 girls. The death rate of children under one year per thousand live births, usually referred to as the infantile mortality rate, was 81.46 as compared with 78.56 in 1946 and 83.87 in 1945. For the five years period 1943 to 1947 the mean rate was 83.90.

*Causes of Death :*

49. The principal causes of death were :—

	1945	1946	1947
enteric fever ... ..	111	91	99
influenza ... ..	14	20	4
malaria ... ..	414	355	217
dysentery ... ..	27	37	96
pulmonary tuberculosis ...	546	553	542
syphilis ... ..	78	82	78
cancer ... ..	229	257	257
cerebral haemorrhage and apoplexy ... ..	274	280	260
infantile convulsions ... ..	41	39	27
cardiac and valvular diseases	568	584	550
bronchitis ... ..	372	351	322
broncho-pneumonia ... ..	250	205	263
lobar pneumonia ... ..	130	134	105
pneumonia (not otherwise defined) ... ..	75	80	70
diarrhoea and enteritis ... ..	413	400	497
ankylostomiasis ... ..	67	54	45
nephritis ... ..	402	338	322
diseases of the puerperal state	122	94	108
diseases of early infancy ...	937	926	946
old age ... ..	575	585	649

## Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

### *Employment :*

50. The sugar industry is the largest single employing industry in the Colony though its labour force is still less than it was before the starting of construction work on the United States defence bases had attracted large numbers of workers from the industry. The gradual improvement which had been taking place since the curtailment of activities on the defence bases was not continued in 1947. The peak figure of employment during the reaping season on the large sugar estates was 22,215 as compared with 22,442 in 1946, although the average number employed per fortnight was 19,235 as against 18,350 in 1946, indicating greater regularity of attendance. It should be borne in mind, however, that these figures do not reflect a complete picture of the number of work-people engaged in the industry since, besides a high labour turnover, 30 per cent. of the canes ground were produced by small farmers and peasant proprietors who are themselves employers of labour.

51. Other important agricultural products of the Colony are cocoa, coconuts and citrus fruits. The increase which occurred towards the end of 1946 in the market price of cocoa from an exceedingly low level to the highest level yet recorded gave a welcome fillip to cocoa cultivation, leading to an increase in the labour force employed. It is estimated that approximately 16,000 persons were engaged in the production of cocoa during 1947 either as wage earners or workers on their own account. Coconut cultivation which has been making gradual improvement of recent years provided employment for an estimated 5,000 workers.

52. The oil and asphalt industries maintained their normal levels of employment of approximately 14,000 and 600 workpeople respectively, while the port transport industry provided employment for approximately 1,200 stevedores, launchmen and lightermen employed by private firms and 1,500 dockers employed by Government. In addition to dockers, there were approximately 9,000 industrial workers employed by Government mainly in the Railway and the Public Works and Hydraulics Departments.

53. The civilian labour force employed on the United States defence bases suffered a further reduction during the year, the number declining from 5,878 at the end of 1946 to 3,500 at the end of 1947.

54. A number of minor industries provided employment for approximately 10,000 workers. These industries included general engineering, quarrying, electricity and water supply, building and construction, and the manufacture of shirts, clothing, ice, beer

and stout, cigarettes, aerated waters, household furniture, brick and tiles, soap and edible oil. It is estimated that some 7,000 were engaged in the distributive trades and around 10,000 in various forms of domestic service in hotels, restaurants and private homes.

### *Wages and Hours of Work :*

55. Wages in agriculture for field work are paid on a task or piece-work basis. The sizes of the tasks and the systems of payment vary widely between estate and estate depending on local conditions such as the state of the field, the nature of the soil and the quality of the work required. A task can normally be completed by an average worker in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 hours, and the number of hours worked per day depends largely on the inclination of the worker, so that there is wide variation in the average daily earnings as between one worker and another. It is therefore very difficult to summarise wage rates or earnings in agriculture.

56. Wage rates in the sugar industry were further increased from the beginning of the year bringing the total wage bill of the larger estates to more than \$5,000,000. Average daily earnings were \$1.10 for field workers as a whole and \$1.70 for workers in the factories, where an 8-hours day is observed.

57. Cutlassing on cocoa estates yielded average daily earnings of 90 cents to \$1.50 for 4 to 6 hours work and pruning from \$1.20 to \$2.50 for 5 to 6 hours. In the coconut industry picking nuts and extracting copra yielded an average of \$2.00 to \$3.00 for 5 to 7 hours work per day.

58. Following negotiations commenced towards the end of 1947 an agreement was concluded in the oil industry, effective from 15th December 1947, and improved wage scales were agreed. Under these skilled workers received rates of pay ranging from  $34\frac{1}{2}$  cents to  $50\frac{1}{2}$  cents per hour, semi-skilled workers from  $32\frac{1}{2}$  cents to  $34\frac{1}{2}$  cents per hour and unskilled workers from  $29\frac{1}{2}$  cents to  $32\frac{1}{2}$  cents per hour inclusive of cost of living bonus. Wage rates in the asphalt industry ranged from  $33\frac{1}{2}$  cents to  $47\frac{1}{2}$  cents per hour for skilled workers,  $28\frac{1}{2}$  cents to  $33\frac{1}{2}$  cents for semi-skilled and  $26\frac{1}{2}$  cents to  $29\frac{1}{2}$  cents for unskilled. An 8-hours day is observed in both these industries.

59. After protracted discussions between Union representatives and Government an upward revision of the schedule of wage rates for Government manual employees, excluding dockers, with retrospective effect from 1st April, 1947, provided rates of pay ranging from \$2.20 to \$3.38 per 8-hours day for skilled workers, from \$1.77 to \$2.12 for semi-skilled and \$1.72 for unskilled, inclusive of a temporary war allowance calculated partly on the basic rate of wage and partly on a sliding scale based on the cost of living index figure.

60. The normal working week in the port transport industry was reduced from 48 hours to 44 hours. Stevedores received 41½ cents per hour while dockers employed in the Government warehouses were paid a rate of \$2.75 per 8-hours day including a temporary war allowance calculated in the same manner as for other Government manual employees.

#### *Cost of Living :*

61. Despite price controls and food subsidies the cost of living continued to rise, due principally to increases in the cost of imported commodities, on which the Colony depends to a great extent to satisfy its needs both of capital and consumer goods. At the end of the year the official cost of living index stood at 226 as compared with 216 at the end of 1946. This figure is related to the standard of living estimated to have been prevalent in 1935 among the wage earning classes only, and does not take into account the undoubted rise in that standard which has since taken place. It may however be accepted as a rough indication of the increase in the cost of living of all sections of the community.

62. The rates for furnished houses and flats ranged between \$70 and \$100 per month. Hotel charges for a single room and meals varied from \$4.50 to \$10.00 per day and boarding house accommodation cost between \$80 and \$120 per month.

#### *Labour Department :*

63. The head of the Labour Department is designated Industrial Adviser. His permanent staff consists of a deputy, a labour officer, a senior factory inspector, 2 junior factory inspectors, chief electrical inspector and 11 clerks. Provision for increasing the strength of labour officers has been made : one local candidate is undergoing training and the early appointment of another is contemplated. The functions of the department include the fostering of proper industrial relations in industry, conciliation in industrial disputes, the collection of information concerning wages, hours of employment and other working conditions, the compilation of the cost of living index figure, the inspection of factories and the management of the Government labour bureaux. In addition the department has set up temporary machinery to assist in the resettlement of ex-servicemen.

#### *Trade Unions :*

64. The trade union movement has been in existence for just over ten years. It has made considerable progress during that period and has gained fairly general recognition throughout the Colony. It is represented on the Executive and Legislative Councils and enjoys seats on a number of Government appointed boards and committees, and on municipal bodies.

65. At the end of 1947 there were 23 workers' unions registered under the Trade Union Ordinance with an estimated membership of approximately 20,000, but their influence among the workers extends far beyond their actual membership.

66. Wage rates and conditions of employment in the major industries, oil, sugar, port transport and asphalt, as well as in many smaller undertakings outside these industries, are regulated by agreements freely negotiated under the principle of collective bargaining. A joint conciliation board for the oil industry and a joint consultative committee for the sugar industry have been established to deal with grievances and differences of general principle which have not been settled by local machinery.

67. The unions representing civil servants and school teachers respectively have been accorded full recognition, and a Colony Whitley Council as well as departmental Whitley Councils have been set up. As regards Government manual employees, wage rates and conditions of work are reviewed from time to time at discussions held at the instance of the unions concerned.

68. In spite of this record of achievement, much ground remains to be covered before the movement can be considered to have attained the status necessary for the full achievement of its aims. Apart from the unions catering for the workers of the major industries, there is a number of organisations which cater for all workers in all industries. The consequent inter-union rivalry and competition for membership, aggravated by conflicts of personality among union leaders, has led to considerable dissipation of their efforts and weakening of their influence.

69. There were however hopeful signs during the year that the unions were beginning to realise the danger and futility of the dissensions and rivalries in the movement. The local Trades Union Council was revitalised by the re-affiliation of the unions that had seceded in the past and by the end of the year embraced all the active and influential unions with the exception of the British Empire Workers, Peasants and Ratepayers' Union whose policies and disruptive practices were unanimously denounced by the Trades Union Council.

70. In consultation with the United Kingdom Trades Union Congress and the Ministry of Labour and National Service, a scheme has been prepared in the Colonial Office for the training of West Indian trade union officials. Under the scheme Ruskin College correspondence courses will be provided free of charge by the Trades Union Congress to 15 officials annually for a period covering, if possible, the next nine years. In addition, during the second, third and fourth years it is intended to provide ten scholarships at the expense of the Colonial Development and Welfare vote to enable selected students, who have completed the correspondence course, to take a six-month's practical course in trade union work in the United Kingdom.

71. The year 1947 was not free of strikes and industrial unrest, due in large measure to the inter-union rivalry referred to above and the desire for personal aggrandisement on the part of certain leaders.

72. At the beginning of the year the strike in the oil industry, which had been called by the British Empire Workers, Peasants and Ratepayers' Union in December 1946 as a result of the refusal of the employers to recognise the union as the bargaining agent on behalf of its employees, was still in progress. This strike petered out by the middle of January with the return to work of the majority of the strikers and the engagement of other workers in replacement of the remainder. There followed, however, an intensification of the campaign of violence and intimidation, accompanied by the firing of oilwells, and the emptying of water reservoirs, giving rise to a situation which had to be met by the enactment of emergency legislation. Approximately 7,000 man days were lost during 1947 as a result of this strike.

73. A strike of Government manual employees was called on 8th January, by the Public Works and Public Service Workers' Trade Union. This union had previously refused to present its representations jointly with the Federated Workers' Trade Union, which had also submitted wage claims to Government. Being dissatisfied with the provisional settlement reached with the Federated Workers' Trade Union, it resubmitted its wage claims which were not granted, and the strike resulted. It did not receive the support of the Trades Union Council to which the union was affiliated and petered out by 4th February without causing any serious dislocation of work. Approximately 850 workers were involved.

74. Four hundred and ninety scavengers of the Port-of-Spain City Council who belonged to no union and had not previously submitted any demands also came out on strike. They resumed work on being given an undertaking by the Corporation that their wages would be increased.

75. On 5th May 1947, some 200 workers of the Perseverance estate of Caroni Limited resorted to a lightning strike. There is little doubt that this strike was engineered by the British Empire Workers, Peasants and Ratepayers' Union which openly supported it, alleging that the terms of the agreements recently concluded with the recognised unions were unsatisfactory and unacceptable to the members of the British Empire Workers, Peasants and Ratepayers' Union. This strike was also attended by acts of intimidation and violence including the firing of cane-fields, and eventually involved some 1,400 workers before petering out by the end of the month. Approximately 14,800 man days were lost.

76. The British Empire Workers, Peasants and Ratepayers' Union in a further effort to force recognition from the Oilfields Employers' Association of Trinidad threatened a general strike to begin on 19th May. The strike which actually started on the 22nd May was confined to the oil industry and approximately 400 workers responded. It petered out within a week with the loss of 700 man days, despite resort once more to acts of intimidation and violence.

77. As a result of the wide publicity accorded these events, both locally and in certain sections of the United Kingdom press, the Secretary of State for the Colonies selected Mr. F. W. Dalley, after consultation with the Trades Union Congress, to conduct an inquiry and report, with the following terms of reference :—

“In view of the recent strikes and disturbances in Trinidad, to visit that colony for informal discussions with the various parties concerned regarding trade union organisation and the state of industrial relations generally.”

78. Mr. Dalley arrived in Trinidad on the 3rd April 1947, and on the conclusion of his enquiry, he submitted a report to the Secretary of State in July, 1947, which was printed as a Colonial Office Paper (Colonial No. 215). The report dealt comprehensively with the events leading up to the various strikes and resultant disturbances and his conclusions and recommendations touched on such matters as the cost of living, trade boards, housing, social welfare, education, casual labour, trade union Ordinances, the future of the trade unions, negotiating machinery, need for an economic survey, &c. He condemned the activities of the British Empire Workers, Peasants and Ratepayers' Union led by Mr. T. U. B. Butler and expressed the view that “responsible Trade Unionism and ‘Butlerism’ cannot exist side by side”.

The report was generally well received.

#### *Labour Legislation :*

79. Two Ordinances relating to labour were enacted during the year.

80. The first, the Labour Statistics Ordinance, No. 6 of 1947, provided for the collection from employers of information regarding the number, wages and working conditions of work-people employed so as to enable the trend of the level of employment in the major industries to be reviewed by Government from time to time.

81. The second Ordinance enacted in consequence of the repeal of the United Kingdom Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Act of 1927 amended the Trades Disputes and Protection of Property Ordinance so as to repeal those sections which had been taken from the United Kingdom Act.

82. The Factories Ordinance 1946 remained unproclaimed during the year pending the appointment of a senior factory inspector. This officer arrived from the United Kingdom and assumed duties late in December, and the work of drafting regulations, prescribed forms, &c., preliminary to the proclamation of the Ordinance was actively begun. The Ordinance is based on the United Kingdom Factories Act 1937 and consolidates with amendments the existing Safety Ordinances, and governs the promotion of the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in factories.

83. The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance makes provision for compensation to be paid in the event of the injury or death of a workman arising out of or in the course of his employment.

84. There is no legislative provision for sickness or unemployment benefits but limited financial relief is granted to the aged and the poor under the Old Age Pensions Ordinance and the Poor Relief Ordinance. (See Part II. Chapter 7: Social Services (4) (c).

#### *Cottage Sewing Centre :*

85. A definite though restricted start was made in the training and employment of adolescent girls who were brought to the notice of the Social Welfare Department by the opening of the Cottage Sewing Centre in September, 1946. Every girl accepted for reasons of environment or history, was unemployable at the date of admission. While the centre was never expected to be entirely self-supporting, it was hoped that in time the cost of materials and trainees' wages would almost be covered by revenue. The Centre was housed in a cottage in a corner of the compound of the Josephine Shaw House and was equipped by Government at a cost of \$969.26.

#### *Resettlement of Ex-Servicemen and Women :*

86. The Resettlement Office which was opened in August 1945 in Port-of-Spain to assist in the resettlement of ex-servicemen on their return to civil life, continued to perform a useful service during the year.

87. The number of servicemen and women released by the end of 1947 was 2,660, of whom 2,510 were men and 150 women. In addition, the Resettlement Office also dealt with 519 ex-servicemen discharged prior to the commencement of demobilisation, making an overall total of 3,179. Demobilisation of all local forces was completed by the end of 1947 and there remain less than 100 R.A.F. personnel to be repatriated from the United Kingdom. A number of men are undergoing training courses of various kinds prior to demobilisation.

88. The Resettlement Office maintained contact with employers of labour, Government departments and public utilities, etc., in its efforts to place ex-servicemen in suitable employment. Despite the difficult employment situation, 1,936



were known to be in employment or working on their own account at the end of the year or approximately 61 per cent. of all ex-servicemen who had registered from time to time at the Resettlement Office.

89. Under the vocational training scheme further training courses were introduced and training in the following trades was provided during the year :—

<i>By the Board of Industrial Training :</i>		<i>No. of Trainees :</i>	
carpentry and joinery	...	...	73
masonry	...	...	55
boot and shoemaking and repairing	...	...	57
painting	...	...	34
upholstery	...	...	16
			235
<i>By Trinidad Government Railways :</i>			
fitters, turners, machinists	...	...	5
<i>By Department of Agriculture :</i>			
animal husbandry and agri-horticulture	...	32	32
		—	—
		Total	272
			—

90. Training (or maintenance allowances) of \$10.00 per week and necessary travelling and subsistence allowances were paid during the periods of training (normally six months' duration.) \$73,682.00 were expended during 1947 on these vocational training schemes.

91. Provision was also made under the Land Settlement Scheme for settlement on the land of ex-servicemen, desirous of and suitable for this form of assistance. A portion of the Maracas Valley was set aside for this purpose, but various difficulties prevented the full development of the scheme until late in the year. Nevertheless 14 ex-servicemen were allocated settlements and took possession of their holdings by the end of the year, and 9 others were given holdings at La Pastora and Brooklyn (Sangre Grande) a total of 23. In all cases financial assistance is given by way of a repayable loan to help develop the holding, procure livestock, &c., and a subsistence allowance is also payable to enable the settlers to tide over the initial period of settlement.

92. Other forms of assistance provided, including financial assistance by way of repayable loans to enable ex-servicemen to resume business closed down by reason of war service, and to assist settlers on private owned or leased lands. Non-repayable grants for further educational purposes and for the purchase of necessary tradesmen's tools (including trainees trained under the vocational training schemes) were also made during the year.

93. Applications for all such forms of assistance were considered by the case sub-committee of the Resettlement Advisory Committee at 14 meetings held during the year and advances and grants totalling \$49,850.00 were approved.

## Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

## I—Revenue and Expenditure under main heads :—

REVENUE 1947		EXPENDITURE 1947	
	\$		\$
<b>Customs and Excise</b> ...	18,052,899	<b>Public Debt</b> ...	1,145,519
<b>Licences and Internal Revenue</b> ...	2,904,097	<b>Pensions and Gratuities</b> ...	1,060,905
<b>Tax on Incomes</b> ...	9,349,438	<b>Education</b> ...	2,378,341
<b>Reimbursements</b> ...	1,121,719	<b>Health</b> ...	2,820,092
<b>Forests, Lands and Mines</b> ...	2,101,766	<b>Miscellaneous Services</b> ...	4,501,561
		<b>Police</b> ...	2,011,005
		<b>Public Works Annually Recurrent</b> ...	3,396,810
		<b>Public Works Extra-ordinary</b> ...	2,004,120
		<b>Railways and Telegraphs</b> ...	2,315,640
		<b>Social Services</b> ...	1,977,318
		<b>Subventions</b> ...	1,035,012
		<b>Special Services</b> ...	3,460,535

## II—Revenue and Expenditure compared with previous years :—

	1945	1946	1947
	\$	\$	\$
Revenue ...	30,558,549	41,889,871	37,325,302
Expenditure ...	33,650,740	31,936,680	37,417,052

## III—PUBLIC DEBT

The Public Debt of the Colony at 31st December, 1947 was \$26,074,860 made up as under :—

(A) <i>Local Loan :</i>		\$
Debentures issued under Ord. 15 of 1920 ...	523,344	
Debentures issued under Ord. 15 of 1918 ...	3,456	
Debentures issued under Ord. 41 of 1931 ...	2,348,160	
Holders of Free of Interest Certificates—Ord. 3 of 1941 ...	150	
Holders of Saving Certificates—Ord. 3 of 1941 ...	2,285,705	
Debentures issued under Ord. 3 of 1941 ...	1,769,664	
Debentures issued under Ord. 27 of 1941 and 23 of 1942 ...	3,101,664	
Debentures issued under Ord. 30 of 1944 ...	3,052,608	
		\$13,084,751
(B) <i>External Loan :</i>		\$
3½% Inscribed Stock issued under Ord. 41 of 1931 ...	4,968,000	
3% Stock 1965/70 ...	8,016,000	
Colonial Development and Welfare ...	6,109	
		\$12,990,109
		<u>\$26,074,860</u>

## V.—STATEMENT OF THE BALANCES (EXCLUDING SPECIFIC FUNDS) OF THE COLONY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT 31ST DEC., 1947.

LIABILITIES				ASSETS			
	\$	c.			\$	c.	
<i>Deposits :—</i>				<i>Advances :—</i>			
Postmaster-General	51,008	21		Industries	6,058	11	
Miscellaneous	2,665,601	46		Public Officers	600,635	29	
				Other Administrations	1,093,710	46	
Drafts and Remittances	...	...	2,716,609	General	14,129,824	58	15,830,228
Government Currency Notes	...	...	3,604				44
Overdraft—Barclay's Bank (D.C. & O.)	...	...	460,822	Imprests	...	...	15,428
Port-of-Spain	...	...	3,132,162	War Expenditure Suspense	...	...	29
Overdraft—Trade Commissioner—Canada	...	...	1,762	Account—			
			91	Naval 1946	780,850	65	
				Naval 1947	197,137	47	
GENERAL REVENUE BALANCE			6,314,962				977,988
Balance at 1st Jan., 1947	\$	c.	37				12
Receipts 1st Jan., to 31st Dec., 1947	13,811,115	89½		Investments Surplus Funds	5,967,927	98	
Expenditure 1st Jan., to 31st Dec., 1947	37,325,301	66½		Cash Balances	601,328	39½	
				Joint Colonial Fund	417,600	00	
				Special Coin Reserve	197,928	00	
				Remittances between Chests	10,796	45	
Deficit	...	...	91,750, 82		7,195,580	82½	
				<i>Deduct :—</i>			
Depreciation of Securities	13,719,365	07½		Balance of Specific Funds			
	326,401	27		in hands of			
	...	...		Accountant General	4,311,299	50	
General Revenue Balance	...	...	13,392,963				2,884,281
			80½				32½
			\$19,707,926				\$19,707,926
			17½				17½

V.—STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC FUNDS DEPOSITED WITH THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL (WHICH ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE GENERAL PURPOSES OF THE COLONY).

	Cash Deposited	Investments	Cash in hands of Accountant General	Cash due to Accountant General
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Barclays Bank for Note Issue ...	3,273,972 00	3,273,972 00	—	—
Coastal Steamers Depreciation Fund ...	495,609 20	494,071 54	1,537 66	—
Cocoa Pool ...	56,971 20	—	56,971 20	—
Colonial Development and Welfare ...	28,469 08	—	28,469 08	—
Government Vehicles Insurance Fund ...	166,022 47	76,912 35	89,110 12	—
Hydraulic Renewals Fund ...	217,161 05	216,211 34	949 71	—
Land Assurance Fund ...	45,786 79	43,265 81	2,520 98	—
Launches Depreciation Fund ...	30,204 36	17,775 02	12,429 34	—
Montreal Trust Company ...	10,000 00	10,000 00	—	—
Petroleum Office and Conservation Board ...	119,426 70	118,026 70	1,400 00	—
Petroleum Office (San Fernando) Bonus to Staff ...	7,756 85	5,679 19	2,077 66	—
Post Office Savings Bank ...	10,124,120 97	9,160,789 38	963,331 59	—
Provident Fund ...	440,803 87	301,800 92	139,002 95	—
Public Officers Guarantee Account ...	17,805 26	67,503 53	—	49,698 27
Public Trustee ...	552,419 13	479,836 96	72,582 17	—
Railway Depreciation Fund ...	309,529 45	361,532 60	—	52,003 15
Stock Transfer Stamp Duty Fund ...	43,314 60	46,988 96	—	3,674 36
Sugar Manufacturers, Replacement Account... Trinidad Assurance Company, Ordinance 1943	419,428 18	—	419,428 18	—
Tugs and Dredgers Depreciation Fund ...	292,848 00	292,848 00	—	—
Reward Funds ...	426,814 58	426,814 58	—	—
Loans Balances ...	3,255 02½	—	3,255 02½	—
Cocoa Subsidy Fund ...	14,576 93	—	14,576 93	—
	2,609,032 68½	—	2,609,032 68½	—
	19,705,328 38	15,394,028 88	4,416,675 28	105,375 78
DEDUCT :—Balance of Specific Funds in hands of Accountant General ...	—	—	105,375 78	—
			\$4,311,299 50	

## VI—CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

Customs :						\$
Import Duties	...	...	...	...	...	11,590,588
Export Duties Tax on Asphalt or Pitch	...	...	...	...	...	77,951
Fines and Seizures	...	...	...	...	...	27,388
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	360
Charges for Warehouse Storage	...	...	...	...	...	32,219
Excise :						
Rum and Spirits	...	...	...	...	...	3,830,890
Charges for Warehouse Storage	...	...	...	...	...	42,337
Beer Duty	...	...	...	...	...	27,329
Oil (Petrol and Kerosene)	...	...	...	...	...	2,113,125
Delivery Tax on Bitters	...	...	...	...	...	974
Copra Products	...	...	...	...	...	137,276
Matches	...	...	...	...	...	12,386
Trade Duty	...	...	...	...	...	160,076

## DESCRIPTION OF MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION AND YIELD OF EACH

*Income Tax :*

94. This is a tax imposed on the income of all individuals exceeding \$1,200 net, *i.e.*, after deductions for wife, children, life insurance premiums and dependent allowances, and is charged on a sliding scale of rate enumerated in the Income Tax Ordinance. In the case of limited liability companies, a flat rate of  $37\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. is payable on the chargeable income subject to relief in the hands of share-holders when such income is distributed. Life insurance companies pay a flat rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on the chargeable income. The following statement shows the incidence of the tax on individuals at varying rates of income and on companies :—

<i>Number of taxpayers assessed to tax under each class with incomes as classified :</i>				<i>Rates of tax in the \$1</i>	<i>Tax charged on the entire incomes falling under each of the classes enumerated in col. (1) subject to relief in respect of tax collected at the source and double taxation</i>
(1)				(2)	(3)
				<i>Cents</i>	<i>\$ c.</i>
3,149	not exceeding \$1,000			8	104,973 03
1,306	exceeds \$1,000 and not	\$2,000		10	161,209 16
678	do.	2,000	do.	3,000	168,006 14
412	do.	3,000	do.	4,000	167,581 47
197	do.	4,000	do.	5,000	122,755 92
134	do.	5,000	do.	6,000	116,814 68
76	do.	6,000	do.	7,000	90,384 70
135	do.	7,000	do.	10,000	237,550 74
95	do.	10,000	do.	14,000	277,193 42
44	do.	14,000	do.	18,000	186,893 79
26	do.	18,000	do.	22,000	164,670 10
27	do.	22,000	do.	28,000	243,450 41
35	do.	28,000	do.	60,000	605,941 00
2	do.	60,000	do.	66,000	74,980 00
2	do.	66,000 and upwards		85	118,530 85
10	life insurance companies			$2\frac{1}{2}\%$	8,634 40
295	other companies			$37\frac{1}{2}\%$	6,458,110 23
6,623					\$9,307,680 04

95. The tax collected in 1947, inclusive of arrears was \$9,349,438.73.

*Estate Duty :*

96. A tax is imposed on all property, real and personal, which passess on the death of a person. The duties are divided into two parts :

- (i) *Estate duty* which is a charge on the corpus of the estate at a scale rate ; and
- (ii) *Succession duty* charged on the value of the property passing to a successor, also at a scale rate varying according to the relationship of the successor to the predecessor.

The duties collected in 1947 amounted to \$557,249.74.

*Stamp Duties :*

97. This is a charge on all classes of instruments referred to in the Schedule to the Stamp Duties Ordinance varying according to the nature of the instrument and in some classes to the consideration expressed therein.

The yield in 1947 was \$209,609.06.

*Sweepstake Tax :*

98. The amendment to the Gambling Ordinance in August increased the tax levied on sweepstakes and included pari-mutuel, forecasts and the consolation sweepstakes.

The tax is as follows :—

- (i) "*White Hat*" tickets and sweepstake tickets not sold on race days : 2½ cents when the price is not less than 12 cents and a further 2½ cents for every additional 12 cents or part thereof ;
- (ii) Sweepstakes sold on race days and the consolation : 3 cents when the price is not less than 12 cents and a further 3 cents on every additional 12 cents or part thereof ;
- (iii) *Pari-mutuel* : 10 per cent. of the sum received for sale of all tickets ; and
- (iv) *Forecasts* : 10 per cent. of the sum received for sale of all tickets. Yield for 1947—\$282,217.30.

*Entertainment Tax :*

99. This is a tax at the rate of 10 per centum of the price of admission to cinematograph entertainments. The yield for 1947 was \$107,010.40.

*Excess Profits Tax :*

100. The tax is imposed at the rate of 80 per cent. of the profits in excess of "standard" profits of any trade or business in the Colony. This tax was abolished in respect of profits after 31st December, 1944. The yield in 1947 was \$118,066.34.

*Other Licences and Internal Revenue :*

A—Liquor licences	...	...	...	\$320,105
B—Land and building taxes	...	...	...	543,670
C—Vehicles	...	...	...	712,133
D—Miscellaneous :—				
Banks, broadcasting, cinema, dogs, firearms, hucksters, pawnbrokers, sweepstakes, Trinidad Consolidated Telephone Company, Limited, &c.	...	...	...	231,981
E—Fines and Forfeitures :—				
Supreme court, magistrates courts, petty civil courts, Food Controller, &c.	...	...	...	225,385

*Post Office :*

Postage and revenue stamps, poundage on postal orders, commission on money orders and inland postal orders	...	...	...	818,781
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## Chapter 4 : Currency and Banking

101. Currency circulation at 31.12.47 ... \$19,494,591½

## Banks operating in territory :—

Barclays Bank  
 Royal Bank of Canada  
 Canadian Bank of Commerce  
 Trinidad Co-Operative Bank Ltd.  
 Gordon, Grant & Co., Ltd.

Government notes of the following denominations are in circulation :—

\$20, \$10, \$5, \$2, and \$1.

British Guiana and Barbados notes are also legal tender.

## Chapter 5 : Commerce

*Imports :*

102. The imports of the Colony for the year 1947 amounted to \$118,783,075 as compared with \$75,403,038 for the year 1946. The increase of \$43,380,037 is equivalent to 57.5 per cent. The corresponding figure for 1939 was \$34,762,954.

*Domestic Exports :*

103. Total exports of domestic produce (including ship's stores and bunkers) during 1947 amounted to \$82,262,232 as compared with \$57,572,075 for 1946 showing an increase of \$24,690,157 or 42.8 per cent. The corresponding figure for 1939 was \$35,731,557.

*Re-Exports :*

104. The value of re-exports (exports other than domestic) amounted to \$4,852,915 in 1947 as compared with \$4,103,871 in 1946 showing an increase of \$749,044 or 18.2 per cent. The corresponding figure for 1939 was \$1,627,919.

*Balance of Trade :*

105. The following table shows at a glance the visible balance of trade of the Colony :—

		1939	1946	1947
		\$	\$	\$
Domestic exports	...	35,731,557	57,572,075	82,262,232
Re-exports	...	1,627,919	4,103,871	4,852,915
Total exports	...	\$37,359,476	\$61,675,946	\$87,115,147
Imports	...	34,762,954	75,403,038	118,783,075
Visible balance of trade	...	+ \$2,596,522	— \$13,727,092	— \$31,667,928

*Sources of Supply :*

106. Imports from British Empire sources for the year 1947 amounted to 59.4 per cent. of the total imports. In 1946 the figure was 69.2 per cent. and 58.3 per cent. in 1939. The principal sources of supply continued to be Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, and United States of America as evidenced by the following comparative table :—

		1939	1946	1947
		\$	\$	\$
Great Britain and Northern Ireland		12,442,672 or 35.7%	21,417,388 or 28.4%	27,264,518 or 23.1%
Canada	...	5,039,903 or 14.5%	26,735,700 or 35.4%	35,199,240 or 29.6%
United States of America	...	8,861,863 or 25.5%	11,637,222 or 15.4%	27,044,905 or 22.7%

*Export Markets :*

107. The principal markets for the Colony's products were :—

		1939	1946	1947
		\$	\$	\$
Great Britain and Northern Ireland		14,843,648 or 41.5%	26,423,334 or 45.9%	32,296,024 or 39.2%
Canada	...	2,630,306 or 7.3%	3,978,255 or 6.9%	5,260,762 or 6.4%
British West Indies	...	2,230,231 or 6.2%	2,737,139 or 4.7%	3,647,603 or 4.4%
United States of America	...	1,285,243 or 3.6%	1,815,533 or 3.1%	2,908,162 or 3.5%

In 1947 the British Empire accounted for 73.5 per cent. of the total domestic exports (exclusive of ship's stores and bunkers). In 1946 the figure was 80.3 per cent. and in 1939 77.6 per cent.



*Principal Imports:*

108. The principal imports for the year 1947 are shown in the following table, a comparison being made with 1939 and 1964:—

	1939		1946		1947	
	Unit	Quantity	\$	Quantity	\$	Quantity
foodstuffs ...	...	—	8,358,170	—	21,438,359	—
apparel ...	...	—	1,363,095	—	2,134,619	—
artificial silk piece goods	... sq. yd. ...	2,489,198	452,221	2,543,554	1,703,726	3,726,625
boots and shoes ...	... doz. pr. ...	71,070	653,390	81,624	2,226,297	103,904
cement ...	... ton ...	43,061	731,294	38,622	1,034,040	43,987
coal ...	... ton ...	40,827	285,084	65,656	986,136	90,045
cotton piece goods ...	... sq. yd. ...	9,623,725	1,040,815	7,432,584	2,784,737	12,299,774
machinery ...	...	—	3,832,660	—	4,369,267	—
motor cars ...	... No. ...	622	499,684	667	922,562	1,771
motor lorries, vans and chassis	No. ...	290	234,968	754	1,194,911	1,082
petroleum crude ...	... gal. ...	11,751,489	448,034	100,922,856	6,309,765	206,360,524
painter's colours and materials	cwt. ...	18,681	265,108	30,724	732,968	32,268
tubes, pipes and fittings	... ton ...	20,227	2,703,480	12,948	2,675,435	18,785
wood and timber	...	—	1,203,297	—	2,141,330	—
(unmanufactured) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
						3,828,968

*Principal Domestic Exports:*

109. The principal domestic exports for the year 1947 are shown in the following table, a comparison being made with 1939 and 1946.

	1939			1946		1947	
	Unit	Quantity	\$	Quantity	\$	Quantity	\$
petroleum ...	... gal.	613,065,740	26,762,296	715,122,670	41,520,918	802,423,910	61,897,237
cocoa ...	... lb.	16,753,267	1,212,682	6,626,862	1,171,781	9,009,644	3,205,049
sugar ...	... ton	114,344	5,087,030	87,067	6,593,592	89,664	8,111,099
rum ...	... p. gal.	135,599	98,933	617,120	1,229,345	844,910	1,846,235
asphalt and products	... ton	86,033	1,170,585	90,255	3,264,313	78,696	2,925,183
coconut oil ...	... gal.	17,202	7,616	611,915	826,997	546,510	789,022
bitters ...	... p. gal.	11,727	96,280	57,356	496,119	39,236	378,925
coffee—raw ...	... lb.	736,487	41,905	1,287,000	204,158	1,265,675	250,014
grapefruit ...	... No.	1,813,430	71,473	402,196	12,111	9,081,436	366,401
lime oil ...	... lb.	48,549	123,484	16,832	110,998	12,698	68,931
other citrus products	... ..	—	13,772	—	567,851	—	623,699

*Transshipment trade :*

III. The value of goods transhipped during 1947 amounted to \$22,846,967 as compared with \$8,674,683 in 1946. In 1939 the figure was \$7,039,524.

III. The exports from Tobago during the years 1946 and 1947 were as follows :—

Articles	1946		1947	
	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
cocoa ... ..	1,874,880	232,935	2,249,956	656,237
copra ... ..	9,489,844	664,286	8,536,670	597,563
fresh vegetables ...	—	77,393	—	68,483
livestock and poultry	—	83,478	—	75,934
lime oil (gals.) ...	803	32,219	679	13,870
leaf tobacco ... ..	9,303	3,621	14,589	5,638
coconuts ... ..	9,400	76	5,700	47
coconut fibre ... ..	1,150,800	57,540	804,400	40,220
all other products ...	—	59,835	—	64,922

The imports are chiefly apparel, foodstuffs and fuel. These are transshipments from Trinidad.

*Imports and Exports Control :*

III. During 1947 in keeping with Government's policy to relax controls at the earliest possible moment, some relaxation was effected in the import control policy. Towards the end of the year, however, an economic crisis developed as a result of the drain on the available dollar resources and it was found necessary to re-introduce measures of war-time severity. There was no appreciable change in the export control policy during the year.

*Importation and distribution by Government of foodstuffs :*

III. In keeping with Government's policy to discontinue the bulk purchase of commodities as soon as supplies warrant such action, Government discontinued during 1947 the importation on its account of peas, canned salmon and oilmeal. The controlled distribution of these items was also discontinued.

III. A very acute shortage of supplies of caustic soda for the manufacture of edible oil, lard, margarine and soap developed during the year, and in order to ensure a sufficiency of supplies to meet the Colony's requirements Government was forced to bulk purchase this item. This action resulted in the receipt of sufficient supplies to meet all local demands, but at greatly enhanced cost.

115. The department continued the importation and controlled distribution of flour, rice, canned corned beef, pickled beef, pickled pork, cooking butter, table butter, cheese, condensed milk, evaporated milk, salted fish, oats, fresh beef and hardening fats for the manufacture of copra products.

116. Consumer rationing of rice was successfully introduced in April and has been working satisfactorily. The ration of  $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. per week is too small, but until the Colony receives more supplies of rice than at present it is not possible to increase the size of the ration. Efforts have been made to obtain further supplies at prices within the reach of the majority of consumers, but without success.

117. During 1947 it was possible to relax the restriction on the making for sale of cakes and loaves of bread of a size in excess of penny loaves.

*Control of manufacture and distribution of copra productions :*

118. During 1947 the authority given to the Controller of Imports and Exports under the Copra, Copra Products and Laundry Soap Regulations, 1943, was transferred to the Comptroller of Customs and Excise. This action was taken as the result of a recommendation of the Copra Committee and it was felt would result in a more efficient working of the control of the industry.

*Subsidisation of foods :*

119. The subsidisation of flour was continued into 1947. As from January of 1947 provision was also made for subsidising condensed milk and rice and towards the end of the year for edible oil as well. The amount spent on food subsidies during the year was \$3,522,396.92 of which amount \$2,902,260 were provided from general revenue and the balance from the department's trading account.

*Black Market Board :*

120. In January, 1947, a Black Market Board under the chairmanship of the Controller of Imports and Exports was set up. The Board consisted of the Controller of Imports and Exports, the Comptroller of Customs and Excise and the Commissioner of Police ; it is under the management of an executive officer. The object of the Board is to co-ordinate and intensify the activities of the police, price control inspectors and food investigators in detecting and presenting black market activities. The results of the work of the Board during 1947 has justified its existence. In addition to the successful prosecution of numerous offences under the regulations, the activities of the Board had a deterrent effect out of proportion to the prosecutions.

## Chapter 6 : Production

## AGRICULTURE

121. As a result of the continuance of and the necessity for a campaign to ensure maximum food production, local food in general is being produced in greater and more balanced proportions. The Colony is still, however, very largely dependent on imported food supplies and especially so is this the case with meat and flour. As long as high prices for food continue local growers will devote more and more attention to food growing and while the present high cost of locally produced food is the direct result of the present economic crisis, there is no other factor which could have encouraged the increased production of local foods to the same extent.

*Sugar :*

122. The sugar output in 1947 was 110,068 tons compared with 109,603 tons in 1946. The increase in output was disappointingly small in that a crop of 125,000 tons had been estimated, the shortfall being due to drought conditions and a certain amount of damage by froghopper.

123. Rains at the beginning of crop were responsible for a poor juice quality which, however, improved as the crop progressed but the average outturn was still comparatively poor at 9.62 tons of cane per ton of sugar.

124. The final crop figures, compared with the previous year, were as follows :—

	1947	1946
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Estates' canes ground ...	737,400	651,003
	(69.62 per cent.)	(65.11 per cent.)
Farmers' canes ground ...	321,818	348,871
	(30.38 per cent.)	(34.89 per cent.)
Total canes ground ...	1,059,218	999,874
Sugar output ...	110,068	109,603
Tons cane per ton sugar ...	9.62	9.12
Estates' acreage reaped ...	29,731 acres	25,816 acres
Estates' canes reaped ...	737,400 tons	652,655 tons
Average cane yield per acre	24.80 tons	25.28 tons

125. The balance of cane production between estates and cane farmers is shown in lines 1 and 2 of the above table.

126. The final price paid to farmers for their canes was at the rate of \$6.52 per ton representing a gross return of \$2,100,248.

127. Of the 110,068 tons of sugar produced, 20,000 tons were allocated for local consumption and the balance was purchased by the Ministry of Food for export.

128. No molasses were exported as such. Apart from usage as stock feed, the great bulk of production was again utilised in the manufacture of rum of which 844,910 proof gallons valued at \$1,846,235 were exported during 1947.

*Cocoa :*

129. The continued high prices now being offered for this crop have encouraged many cocoa estate owners to reclaim their plantations from the semi-abandonment consequent on years of low prices, low yields and the ravages of disease. Although the crop for 1947 showed an increase over those for the preceding two years, the yield was still far below that of previous years.

130. Prices paid directly to the producer increased from \$28.00 per fanega (110 lb.) in January to \$41.00 per fanega in December. This compares with \$13.25 per fanega which was the price paid throughout the war years.

131. The present high value of this crop is reflected in comparing the figures for 1938 and 1947. Comparative export figures and values are as follows :—

Year.		lb.	\$
1938	... ..	42,436,447	2,369,285
1944	... ..	10,622,633	1,411,796
1945	... ..	7,731,824	1,080,047
1946	... ..	6,626,962	1,171,781
1947	... ..	9,009,644	3,205,049

132. Witches' broom disease accounted for less damage than usual due to a prolonged dry season and also to the greater care now being paid to cultivations.

133. The Government Cocoa Rehabilitation Scheme, whereby assistance is given in the replanting of those areas best suited to cocoa with high yielding plants, made further progress and 105,995 rooted cuttings were issued to the field compared with 70,000 in 1946 and 90,000 in 1945. Under the scheme, assistance is also given to the rehabilitation of land in crops other than cocoa where the land is considered unsuitable for replanting in cocoa and the majority of the applications received so far in this connection, have been for the planting of citrus.

*Coconuts :*

134. With the price of copra maintained at \$7.00 per 100 lb. work on bringing the plantations back to maximum production has continued. Two estates have purchased rotary hoes for inter-row tillage in coconut fields and more estates are applying fertilisers to improve their fields. In all districts gathering of dropped nuts keeps apace with ripening and in a number of instances planters have reverted to the practice of picking. The prolonged drought experienced early in 1947 had a marked adverse effect later in the year on size of nuts and yield of copra and this will doubtless be further reflected in the outturn of copra in 1948.

135. No copra was exported as such. Total production was delivered to the factories for oil extraction and processing. Products so processed include edible oil, coconut oil, lard compound, margarine, butter substitute and laundry soap ; besides meeting the Colony's requirements of these commodities, surpluses valued at \$1,277,306 were exported within the Caribbean area.

136. The extent to which the industry has recovered as a result of a price stabilised at a satisfactory figure is reflected in the following figures of copra milled each year :—

Year.	lb.
1943 ... ..	...21,670,531
1944 ... ..	...29,313,693
1945 ... ..	...38,916,669
1946 ... ..	...39,617,401
1947 ... ..	...40,033,078

#### OTHER CROPS.

##### *Citrus :*

137. The extent and diversification of the citrus industry is shown in the following table of exports during 1947 :—

		Quantity	Value
			\$
lime oil distilled ... ..	...lb.	12,698	68,931
raw lime juice ... ..	...gals.	67,310	48,913
limes, fresh ... ..	...lb.	4,398	538
citrate of lime ... ..	...lb.	209,440	17,496
grapefruit, fresh ... ..	...No.	9,081,436	366,401
oranges, fresh ... ..	...No.	4,708,746	78,000
grapefruit juice ... ..	...gals.	473,045	478,045
			<hr/>
			\$1,038,324

138. The lime industry continues to decline owing to the premature dying out of trees recorded in the report for 1946.

139. Both grapefruit and orange cultivation are increasing and the industry is a thriving one. Resumption of the export of fresh grapefruit, which trade had been suspended during the war years made a welcome and profitable addition to the industry.

##### *Coffee :*

140. Both robusta and arabica coffee are grown, mostly as an interplanted crop and on road boundaries on cocoa plantations. The greater part of the arabica crop is consumed locally but a considerable surplus of robusta is exported. 1,265,675 lb. of raw coffee valued at \$250,014 were exported during the year.

*Rubber :*

141. With the expiration on 30th June 1947 of the agreement whereby all rubber produced was made available to the Government of the United States of America through the agency of the Rubber Development Corporation, rubber tapping virtually ceased. Under this agreement the basic price paid was 48 cents United States currency per lb. for Hevea ribbed smoked sheet of first quality and, in addition, production bonuses were payable. The present world price for this commodity is uneconomic in so far as this Colony is concerned.

142. Exports during 1947 totalled 324,899 lb. valued at \$221,296.

*Tonca beans :*

143. There was no market for these beans during the early part of the year but buying commenced later at the reduced price of 50 to 60 cents per lb. Exports during the year totalled 204,176 lb. valued at \$196,515.

*Organisation of productivity :*

144. Some two-thirds of the total production of sugar-cane is grown on the estates owned and maintained by the sugar companies, the remaining third being produced by peasant cane-farmers. The whole of the crop is processed at factories owned by the sugar companies, the peasant farmers' production being purchased by the companies as sugar-cane. Estate cultivation of sugar-cane is becoming more highly mechanised. To a small extent, estates also carry out mechanical cultivation on cane-farmers' lands and the demand in this respect is also being met by peasant contractors.

145. The acreage under cocoa was divided approximately equally between estates of 50 acres and under farmed by peasant proprietors and estates of over 50 acres maintained by planters. Much of this acreage, however, had reached an abandoned state but with the good prices now ruling, the better cocoa lands are being brought back into production.

146. The citrus for export, the coconut and the tonca bean industries are predominately plantation crops.

147. The livestock industry, with the exception of only a few large dairies, is a peasant industry, the Indian community in particular concentrating on milk production in the neighbourhood of the larger towns.

*Co-operative societies :*

148. One new society, the Federation of Agricultural Co-operative Societies, was registered during the year. The objects are (i) to provide a means by which affiliated societies can



express their collective views on matters relating to agriculture, co-operation, mutual help and self-help, (ii) to promote the organisation of new societies on a basis of co-operation, (iii) to design measures to improve the work and extend the usefulness of such societies, and (iv) to disseminate knowledge concerning the practice of agriculture.

149. There are now nine registered agricultural co-operative societies in the Colony with one, the Tobago Producers' Co-operative Association, in liquidation. The aggregate membership of the eight active societies is 1,264 and members subscribed capital to over \$180,000.

150. The Co-operative Citrus Growers' Association is the largest of these societies and continues to serve a very useful purpose on sound business lines. It marketed 279,334 crates of members' fruits during the year as compared with 197,500 crates in the previous year.

151. A detailed list of these societies follows :—

The Co-operative Citrus Growers' Association

The Tobago Lime Growers' Co-operative Association

Three co-operative cocoa fermentaries in Tobago :—

Roxborough

Pembroke

Delafor

The Aranguez Vegetable Growers' Co-operative Association

The Tobago Producers' Co-operative Association (in liquidation)

The Trinidad and Tobago Lime Growers' Association

The Federation of Agricultural Co-operative Societies.

*General :*

152. A severe drought in the early part of the year together with a year of low total rainfall adversely affected both the production of sugar and copra.

153. During 1947 there has been no change in the policy of land tenure.

154. In 1941 the sale of Crown lands was discontinued under the Land Grants (Temporary Provisions) Regulations, 1941, and leases are now granted with covenants designed to assure full and proper development of the land. The usual terms for which leases for agricultural purposes are granted are 25 years with the option to renew for a further 25 years.

155. In 1945 it was accepted that a standard form of lease of Crown land for agricultural purposes should contain provision for compensating the lessee for unexhausted improvements and for penalties for dilapidations.

#### ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

156. In connection with the improvement of livestock, Government maintained eight breeding units and in addition 26 stud animals were available for service at various centres. The stud animals comprised a pure bred Friesian bull, selected grade bulls, large black and Berkshire boars, buck goats, stallions and jack donkeys and, in Tobago, ram sheep.

157. Livestock shows held during the year included seven shows held at various centres in the sugar belt primarily for peasant cane farmers, the annual shows of the Goat Society, the Poultry Association, and the Tobago District Agricultural Society.

158. Government maintained its stock farms at St. Joseph, Trinidad, and Scarborough, Tobago. The number of livestock carried at these farms at 31st December 1947 was as follows :—

<i>Type</i>				<i>Trinidad</i>	<i>Tobago</i>
cattle	...	...	...	380	78
equines	...	...	...	29	41
goats ...	...	...	...	64	32
pigs ...	...	...	...	60	35
poultry	...	...	...	394	130
sheep ...	...	...	...	—	40
rabbits	...	...	...	—	33

159. With the decision to concentrate horsekind breeding work of the Department of Agriculture on the Tobago farm, more brood mares and jennies were transferred to the Tobago farm during the year. The hunter stallion 'Bold Friar' imported into the Colony from the United Kingdom was sent over to the island-ward and will stand for service during 1948. The Trinidad Turf Club purchased the thoroughbred stallion 'Brown Bomber' bred in Jamaica and presented him to the department as a gift. The transfer of the Sahiwal herd of zebu cattle to the Tobago farm from Trinidad was completed early in September and there are 38 pure bred Sahiwal on the Tobago farm.

#### VETERINARY

160. Tuberculin testing was carried out throughout the Colony, 2,274 cattle were tested and there were 232 reactors, or about 10 per cent. infected. This testing is carried out primarily in connection with milk for sale and all reactors are slaughtered, Government paying partial compensation.

161. There were no outbreaks of proclaimed diseases during the year. One suspected case of anthrax was reported at Mayaro, but investigation proved otherwise. There was only one report of swine fever which proved negative when investigated. Vaccination with crystal violet vaccine has been carried out regularly at both stock farms, especially on young pigs as soon as they are weaned. This work was also carried out in the northern and southern areas and 237 pigs were vaccinated.

162. The following animals were imported into the Colony during the year :—

<i>Type</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Total</i>
cattle	...British West Indies	40	3,539
	Colombia ...	3,495	
	French West Indies	4	
goats	...British West Indies	11,066	12,874
	Venezuela ...	1,808	
sheep	...British West Indies	2,165	2,220
	Venezuela ...	55	
swine	...British West Indies	4,360	4,360
poultry	...British Guiana ...	3,834	14,485
		10,651	

The above importations were for slaughter purposes. Additional, but much smaller numbers, were imported for breeding and work purposes.

#### FISHERIES

163. A Fisheries Division of the Department of Agriculture was established during the year. Temporary staff consisting of an assistant fishery officer, fishery assistant, and junior fishery assistant were appointed, the two former in January and the latter in August. A launch was acquired and fitted out for investigational and demonstration work. This was put into commission in October. A trammel net, shark net, and shark palangue were acquired, and work on an otter trawl commenced. An analysis was made of the records of individual boat-trips collected during the previous year. Work was continued on extraction of shark liver oil, with satisfactory results. Efforts are being made to encourage commercial shark-fishing and to facilitate marketing of shark-products. Demonstrations were made of the use of improved types of gear, and a certain amount of extension work was carried out amongst fishermen concerning observance of fishery regulations, especially as regards destruction of fry. Various problems in connection with the fishing industry were investigated and the necessary recommendations made. The collection of data and general information was continued.

*Production :*

164. The total figures are not available as the bulk of landings did not pass through recognised markets. Quantities of fish handled by the two principal fish markets were as follows :—

Port-of-Spain	...	...	...2,376,238 lb.
San Fernando	...	...	...1,458,000 lb.

*Marketing and Organisation :*

165. An appreciable increase in the use of power-driven units has been noticed (outboards and small inboard engines) and a general improvement in design of fishing craft and type of gear used.

166. Two fishermen's associations are in active operation, one at Toco and one at Matelot. The former marketed their own fish with some assistance from the Marketing Division of the Department of Agriculture ; but the depot at Matelot was wholly operated by the Marketing Division. An association at Sans Souci is to begin operation next year.

## FORESTRY

167. Forestry is primarily a public service carried out almost entirely by the Government Forest Department. During the development of the Colony, the clearing of large areas for cultivation, and the destruction of vegetation by fire on other lands, have resulted in widespread sheet-erosion of soil, and in reduced water absorption. The frequency and extent of destructive floods have emphasised the need for the protection of the remaining vegetation as a cover to the mountains, hills and water-sheds. The complementary function of the Department is so to manage the forests that their economic value may be improved, and a regulated supply of timber, firewood and minor produce maintained. The welfare of the community, and in particular the comfort of the peasants and the poorer townfolk depend to a considerable extent on a steady supply of cheap satisfactory forest products.

168. During the war years and the ensuing period the importation of timber was reduced by shortage of supplies and of shipping, and the value of logs cut from local forests increased from 684,000 cubic feet in 1938 to 2,179,000 cubic feet in 1946. The timber was used in the round for the building of rural houses, was converted into matches in a local factory, and into boards, planks and scantlings in 58 small local sawmills, and was sawn or hewn into railway sleepers. In addition 2,311,000 cubic feet (solid) of firewood, and corduroy (for roadmaking) were cut, making a total round volume of 4,490,000 cubic feet in 1946. Cutting in forest reserves is subject to some control designed to prevent over-cutting of the forests, which might lead to general deterioration of the vegetation.

169. Natural regeneration of the existing forest continues with varying degrees of success on an extensive scale, while under intensive management small areas are regenerated each year. In 1947, 451 acres were planted with teak, bringing the total area planted with this species up to 5,628 acres ; the health and rate of growth of the teak are most satisfactory. 560 acres were also regenerated naturally with indigenous species in 1947.

170. Since 1944 the demarcation of reserves has proved impossible owing to the lack of surveyors. At the end of 1947, the total area of reserves was 203,302 acres, or 16 per cent. of the land surface of the Colony. In addition there were some 412,000 acres of unreserved Crown forest, of which some 94,000 acres were proposed reserves not yet demarcated.

#### MINING

##### *Products :*

171. No ore deposits of economic importance have as yet been discovered in Trinidad. The principal mineral products are :—

- (1) Crude petroleum—output for 1947 : 20,520,186 barrels
- (2) Natural asphalt—output for 1947 : 87,346 tons
- (3) Building stone and road metal.

##### *Organisation of industries :*

172. The petroleum industry at present consists of twelve operating companies. Four of the smaller companies have management agreements with larger concerns and only six companies are at present maintaining complete field staffs for drilling.

173. Four companies operate shipping terminals and two, Trinidad Leaseholds Limited and United British Oilfields of Trinidad Limited., maintain refineries, purchasing crude oil from other local companies as well as producing it themselves.

174. An increasing amount of foreign crude is being imported each year, the refined products being re-exported. The greater part of the refinery output is disposed of in the local bunker trade and in shipments to the United Kingdom.

175. During the past year seismograph and gravimetric surveys have been carried out with a view to locating geological structures not detectable by surface examination. Shortage of steel and of hard currency have resulted in a slight reduction in exploitation drilling, and these factors will probably limit the Colony's crude production for some time.

## THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

176. Ordinances relating to agricultural credit societies and agricultural co-operative societies were passed in 1916 and 1931 respectively (*see also para. 148*)—but the co-operative movement proper is still in its infancy.

177. A Credit Union Ordinance was enacted in 1946 to provide safeguarding legislation for the growing movement and a Registrar of Credit Unions and a small staff were appointed on the passing of the ordinance. The movement is conducted on Rockdale principles and follows closely the philosophy and techniques practised at Antigonish, Nova Scotia, where thrift and study are stressed in the early stages.

178. At the end of 1946 there were over 30 registered credit unions comprising some 5,000 members with sums amounting to over \$30,000 collected of which half was on loan to members.

179. Other types of co-operatives include : a bakery at Morvant, a fisherman's co-operative at Toco, two for marketing charcoal, a co-operative dairy at La Pastora, a consumer co-operative at Navet and another in the making at La Pastora. There are also several buying clubs. All these have sprung from the credit union movement. When the model comprehensive ordinance is enacted and a permanent department set up, the co-operative movement in these parts will spread rapidly and surely, because study is recognised as absolutely essential to the healthy growth of the movement.

180. It is pleasing to observe two results : (1) the emergence from the people of zealous leaders acting as promoters on a purely voluntary basis, and (2) well employed persons in business, the civil service, and professional people, likewise some of the clergy particularly Roman Catholic, are also acting voluntarily as promoters throughout this dependency—themselves leaders of discussion groups. Two large stores have credit unions—and employees, whether directors, clerks or cash boys, are members.

181. Unregistered thrift and savings groups are also sponsored by the Social Welfare Department especially in the rural areas.

## TOBAGO

182. Tobago is mainly an agricultural island, the principal products are as follows :—copra, cocoa, livestock and poultry, coconut fibre, fresh vegetables and grain crops, lime oil and leaf tobacco. Cocoa and copra are produced by the large proprietor as well as the peasant proprietor. Owing to the increase in the price of copra and cocoa, the estate owners were able to spend more money on improving the condition of their estates. Labour

conditions were satisfactory and there were no strikes amongst the agricultural labourers. The average rainfall for the year was 68.77 inches compared with 127.64 inches in 1946. During the year 1947, the Island-Ward suffered from severe drought, which resulted in the decrease in the copra produced.

183. There are three co-operative cocoa fermentaries and they have handled 907 fanegas of cocoa during the year ; with a membership of 284 producers they have accumulated subscribed capital and cess to the value of \$6,080.00 and reserves of \$2,511.00.

The Co-operative Lime Growers' Association, which started in 1930, has a membership of 625. This association with its fairly up-to-date factory is solely responsible for the building up of the lime industry which is still expanding. The association handled 4,077 barrels of limes from which 2,455 lb. of oil were manufactured during the year.

184. There are 19 agricultural credit societies in the island with a total membership of 620. Loans advanced during the year amounted to \$42,220.00.

## Chapter 7 : Social Services

### EDUCATION

185. The educational system of the Colony is controlled by a Director, Deputy Director and Assistant Director (Administrative) with a staff of Government inspectors. The Director is assisted by an Education Board of 14 members, whose functions are primarily consultative. The Board advises on educational policy and principles as well as on various administrative questions.

#### *Primary education :*

186. The primary school system falls into two main categories, assisted denominational schools (246) and Government schools (49), with a number of private schools as well. The assisted denominational schools are controlled by boards of management, but the salaries of teachers in these schools are paid fully by Government and on the same scales as Government teachers. The denominational boards of management provide and maintain their buildings, with the aid of Government building grants. Furniture and equipment in these schools are now provided largely by Government. One of the conditions of a grant is that the school must be open to all children without distinction of religion, nationality or language.

187. The majority of the assisted primary schools are Roman Catholic (95), Canadian Presbyterian Mission (67) and English Church (60). There are also a few Methodist (11), Moravian (11), Baptist (1) and African Methodist Episcopal (1), assisted schools.

188. In the 287 primary schools there were 94,925 pupils on roll with 4,600 in 8 intermediate schools, which also contain post-primary classes up to school certificate standard. The distribution of pupils among these schools by religions is as follows :—

Roman Catholics	33,788	34 per cent.
Hindus	25,065	25 per cent.
English Church	23,157	23 per cent.
Moslems	7,102	7 per cent.
Presbyterians	3,950	4 per cent.
Methodists	1,839	2 per cent.
Moravians	1,638	2 per cent.
Others	2,986	3 per cent.

189. The majority of the pupils attending denominational schools belong to that denomination except in the case of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission schools which have a majority of Hindus and Moslems. Out of 26,020 children attending Canadian Mission schools 2,754 (10.5 per cent.), are Presbyterian, and there are 14,761 Hindus (56.7 per cent.), 3,534 Moslems (13.5 per cent.), 2,874 Roman Catholics (11 per cent.) and smaller numbers of other Christian denominations. Out of 30,130 pupils in Roman Catholic schools 8,598 (28.5 per cent.) are non-Roman Catholics ; there are also 5,793 Roman Catholic pupils in Protestant denominational schools. There are no assisted schools maintained by other than Christian bodies.

190. Primary education is free and compulsory for all children between the ages of 6 and 12 resident within two miles of a Government or assisted school. The ages of admission to the primary schools are between 5 and 14. No pupil is retained on the roll of a primary school after attaining the age of 15. The primary schools are organized in seven standards with infant departments. The course of instruction is prescribed by regulations drawn up on the advice of the Education Board and only such text books may be used as are approved by the Board. School attendance leaves considerable room for improvement despite the efforts of 17 attendance officers. The heavy and frequent falls of rain account for much of the absences since few children are equipped to protect themselves from rain.

191. The primary schools suffer by reason of the shortage of trained and qualified teachers. Few teachers in primary schools have been educated in secondary schools and in 1947 apart from headteachers and specialist teachers for needlework, handicrafts, housecraft, &c., there were as many as 991 pupil-teachers employed in the schools as compared with 757 trained and 531 untrained assistant teachers.



192. The administration and control of the primary schools were improved by the appointment of eight education officers which enabled the schools to be organized into eleven circuits or districts each under one education officer. In each district the education officer organized the training of pupil-teachers on Saturday mornings in centres under his supervision and with the aid of trained teachers in the district. The daily instruction of pupil-teachers by the headteachers, however, continued as before.

193. During 1947, a survey of school buildings was carried out by the Department and it was revealed that a sum of some \$8,000,000 would be needed to put existing buildings in order and provide the necessary new schools and extensions. The Government Development Committee later agreed that 54 schools needed replacement, 33 schools needed enlargement, 5 new schools were necessary to relieve overcrowding and 5 new schools should be built in schoolless areas. The committee also agreed to include two technical schools, one central-senior school, six practical centres and some provision for teachers' quarters in rural areas. The committee's proposals amounted to approximately half the Colony's need, but no funds were available in 1947 and it was proposed to raise the required amount by means of a loan.

194. Late in the year the Works and Hydraulics Department completed its inspection of the school buildings adversely reported on by the Education Department and pronounced that 17 school buildings were actually dangerous. These had to be closed and emergency repairs carried out during the Christmas holidays.

### *Secondary Education :*

195. Apart from the eight intermediate schools (2 Government, 5 Roman Catholic, 1 English Church) in which small fees are charged, there are eight assisted secondary schools and one Government secondary school, the Queen's Royal College, which has 427 boys and a staff consisting of 15 graduate masters and 2 non-graduates. These schools charge \$16.00 per term for tuition, but there is a number of free exhibitions awarded by Government to meritorious pupils from primary schools on the results of an annual public examination. In 1947 there were 55 such exhibitions awarded. The 9 recognised secondary schools contain 4,947 pupils. The denominational secondary schools include St. Mary's College for Boys (R.C.), St. Joseph's Convent (R.C.) and Bishop Anstey's High School for Girls (E.C.) in Port-of-Spain, Naparima College for Boys (C.M.), Naparima High School for Girls (C.M.), St. Benedict's College for Boys (R.C.) and St. Joseph's High School for Girls (R.C.) in San Fernando, and the Bishop's High School for Boys and Girls (E.C.) in Tobago. These schools prepare pupils for the Cambridge

School Certificate and Higher School Certificate examinations. On the results of the latter examinations three university scholarships are awarded annually by Government. At the December, 1947 examinations, 1,568 candidates sat for the Cambridge School Certificate Examination. Of this number, 624 candidates were presented by the recognised schools and 455 of these candidates passed. There were 944 private candidates for this examination of whom 238 were successful. One hundred and sixty candidates took the Higher School Certificate Examination and 102 passed.

*Private schools :*

196. Apart from the above, there are many private schools, of which 18 are secondary, mainly in Port-of-Spain. These schools are required to be registered and conform with certain regulations governing buildings, furniture, sanitary arrangements and moral character of the teachers.

*Training of teachers :*

197. Primary teachers are trained at the Government Training College and two other denominational training Colleges. The majority of the students have been pupil-teachers in the primary schools. Most of the secondary school products aspire to enter the Civil Service or commerce if they do not study medicine or law. The courses at the training colleges are of one, two or three years' duration. It is intended however to insist on a higher standard of entry and thus reduce the length of the courses. In 1947 there were 190 teachers in training at the colleges.

*School gardens and 4-H Clubs :*

198. Most schools have gardens and many of them reach a high standard. There is keen competition for the annual award of a School Garden Shield and other prizes. There are two supervisors of 4-H Clubs which now number 41. They encourage gardening, the rearing of livestock, handicrafts and housecraft in the pupils' homes.

*Technical education :*

199. Technical and commercial education is in the hands of the Board of Industrial Training, a demi-official body in receipt of Government grant. The Board maintains a junior technical school (full-time) at San Fernando and otherwise conducts theoretical and practical evening classes at Port-of-Spain, San Fernando and on the oilfields in preparation for the examinations of the City and Guilds of London Institute. Students of the commercial classes (part-time) are prepared for the usual examinations in shorthand, typewriting and book-keeping. The Board is always charged with the duty of approving apprenticeship indentures and maintaining a register of apprentices. At the end of 1947, 423 registered apprentices and 1,202 other students were attending the Board's classes.

200. During 1947 the Board, on behalf of the Resettlement of Ex-Servicemen Advisory Committee, conducted two six-month's courses of vocational training for a total of 224 full-time students in six different trades.

*Adult classes :*

201. In 1947, adult evening classes were conducted at nineteen different centres in the colony. The general aim was to provide the type of instruction that would equip certain sections of the adult population for the duties and responsibilities of intelligent citizenship. The curriculum was not confined to the more usual academic subjects, but instruction was given in public health, human relationships including civics and elementary economics, music and art.

*Orphanages and Industrial schools :*

202. There are two orphanages, one maintained by the Dominican Sisters and the other by the Diocesan Board of the Anglican Church ; an industrial school for boys controlled by the Church of England and one for girls under the control of the Corpus Christi Sisters.

HEALTH

203. There has been little change in the general health of the Colony during the past year, except for the outbreak of enteric fever in the urban and rural areas of Arima. There was evidence that the outbreak was due to the pollution of water by a carrier.

204. The principal causes of deaths for the year 1947 are shown in Table I, the five leading causes being diseases of early infancy, diseases of the heart, diseases of old age, diarrhoea and enteritis and pulmonary tuberculosis.

205. It is not possible to analyse accurately the incidence of diseases in relation to occupation. It can be stated, however, that hookworm disease is generally prevalent in low-lying sugar-cane areas. The Health Department has been intensifying its efforts in regard to the prevention, control and elimination of this disease in the Colony.

206. In an attempt to standardise the procedure for public health administration of rural areas an experimental station was established in Morvant. This experiment has been extended to include the entire County of St. George. The experiment is directed to :—

- i. The elimination of endemic diseases such as malaria, hookworm, enteric fever, ulcers, venereal diseases, yaws, leprosy and tuberculosis ;

- ii. The encouragement of intensive measures in sanitation and health education by voluntary bodies such as community councils, child welfare bodies, &c. ;
- iii. Community and individual efforts in growing such crops as are indicated for the correction of nutritional defects, revealed by nutrition surveys.

207. In this work the Departments of Education, Agriculture and Health collaborated to formulate schemes and assist in their department.

*Nutrition :*

208. The Nutrition Survey carried out in this Colony during 1945-46 and the beginning of 1947 showed dietary deficiencies of vitamin A, vitamin B complex, especially vitamin B and riboflavin and calcium. Animal protein intake was also low.

209. Propaganda on nutrition is directed mainly on methods of growing crops such as peas, beans, green vegetables, yellow fruits, &c., which can supply the deficiencies and at the same time increase the purchasing power of the family earnings in other directions. Shark liver oil is being used as an important means of supplying vitamin A to children. Soya beans grown at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture are being used in the institutions of the Health Department and in the child welfare clinics as soya milk for infants of two to five years. Soya beans are a very good source of supply of protein and B vitamins. Shark oil produced at Matelot is being used to fortify skimmed milk in a few schools.

210. Calcium deficiency is being met by the addition of calcium salts to flour. The flour imported into this Colony is not fortified in this way but tests on the practicability of adding calcium to bread have been underway since June 1947.

211. Cookery classes at various centres have become popular. People are thus taught not only to grow the right food but the correct method of cooking from a point of view of nutrition.

*Venereal diseases :*

212. The campaign against the venereal diseases based on the activities of the Caribbean Medical Centre made excellent progress during the past year. The clinics continued to attract large numbers of people, some 5,000 more than in the previous year, and the effectiveness of the venereal disease education carried out is reflected in the large numbers who do not obviously complain of venereal diseases but who report for examination in order to know for sure that they are not infected, and in the higher percentage of a people who report for attention in the early stages of the disease as compared with the past years.

213. The use of a mobile field team was continued with considerable success in certain rural areas. This team was utilised for a mass attack on the venereal disease and yaws, but also directed its attention to controlling other diseases of public

health importance. It is hoped to be able to continue to have one such mobile field team in operation continuously and to move it from one rural area to the next. This would be an outstanding contribution to the welfare of these rural communities.

214. The preventive aspect of the campaign was particularly stressed in the intensification of work in connection with pre-marital and pre-natal examination and also in the co-operation that has been sought and given by religious bodies and other organizations working for the welfare of the community.

*Malaria :*

215. During the year, the residual DDT programme, which offers considerable promise of controlling malaria at an economic figure for the Colony, was considerably extended. The following places are now treated twice a year : Laventille-Success Village, Morvant-San Juan, Piarco, California, Rousillac, Cedros, Manzanilla, Mayaro, Fishing Pond, Plum Road, Biche and Guayaquayare, involving more than 35,000 houses. During 1948 it is proposed to extend the programme considerably in Trinidad and to launch a special project in Tobago where more than 8,000 houses will be treated twice a year.

216. The Bromeliad control programme continues satisfactorily and the spleen rates in the treated areas around Sangre Grande have been reduced from 30 per cent. to less than 6 per cent. Nearly 1,000 acres of cocoa lands have been sprayed with a  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. copper sulphate solution during the year.

217. The Malaria Division continues to maintain constant watch at Piarco aerodrome and during the year, anopheles albimanus, a dangerous vector of malaria which fortunately does not exist in Trinidad, was discovered on an aircraft and destroyed by an attendant on duty.

218. Effective control measures have also been executed at Cocorite which guards the western boundary of Port-of-Spain. The spleen rates of this district have been reduced from 30 per cent. to less than 5 per cent. Intensive anti-malarial measures are also executed at Piarco where it is necessary to maintain a high degree of efficiency in order to comply with international regulations. At Blanchisseuse, the spleen rates have been reduced from around 35 per cent. to less than 5 per cent. and a similar result has been obtained in the Toco, Sans Souci districts and in Roxborough and Canaan villages in Tobago.

219. The International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation through whose efforts malaria control was re-organised in this Colony has again consented partially to finance and sponsor a programme for the total eradication of malaria in the island of Tobago. This programme has been carefully constructed by officers of the Health Department and there are good reasons for hope that it would be a complete success.

*Leprosy :*

220. The leprosy survey of the Colony and treatment of cases of leprosy both at the leprosarium and various urban and rural centres continued. The installation of an electric power and lighting system in the leprosarium and the construction of a theatre for cinematograph entertainment for patients were completed.

## OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

*Tuberculosis :*

221. A chief tuberculosis officer was appointed during the year and rural centres have been established for the examination of suspected cases. It is hoped that the provision of an isolation hospital, for which plans have been made, will assist in controlling the spread of the disease.

*Paralytic rabies :*

222. There were no cases of paralytic rabies.

223. A special endemic diseases unit is now functioning in Tobago.

## INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

224. There are three colonial hospitals with 932 beds and two houses of refuge with 754 beds. Table II summarizes the position in these hospitals.

225. There are, in addition, eight district hospitals with a total of 235 beds.

226. Attendance was also provided at four health centres and at 86 rural dispensaries and vaccination centres where a total of 189,621 patients attended.

*Mental hospital :*

227. The congestion at this institution continued. 410 patients were admitted, 193 were discharged and 142 died.

*Results of treatment :*

228. Treatment of cerebral syphilis with penicillin is giving encouraging results with early cases. Electric convulsion therapy has been carried out extensively during the year with good results on the whole.

229. It has been possible, by the use of portable film projectors, to provide entertainment for bed-ridden patients.

230. The new male isolation ward for patients with tuberculosis was occupied in July. The newly constituted mental hospital board held its first meeting in May. Its main functions have been to inspect the accommodation provided for patients and to review cases of criminal lunatics and other patients who are required to come under special review.

*Colonial Hospital, Port-of-Spain :*

231. It is hoped that the new casualty and out-patient department, dispensary and administration offices will be available early this year.

232. The military hospital, now vacated by the South Caribbean Forces, will be utilised as a temporary maternity department during the construction of the south-eastern block.

*Colonial Hospital San Fernando :*

233. The nurses' hostel was completed during the year and is now being partially occupied. The formal opening of this building will take place during the year.

TABLE I

234. LIST OF DISTRICT HOSPITALS, RURAL DISPENSARIES, &C.			<i>District Hospitals</i>	<i>Rural Dispensaries and Health Centres</i>
ST. GEORGE	...	...	Arima (30 beds) St. Joseph (42 beds) Tacarigua (38 beds)	Port-of-Spain (3), St. James, Diego Martin, Carenage, Morvant, Arima, San Juan, Santa Cruz, Maracas, Arouca, Blanchisseuse, Paria, St. Helena, Talparo, San Rafael.
CARONI	...	...	Couva (55 beds)	Gran Couva, Flanagin Town, Todd's Road, Calcutta Settlement, Tabaquite, Cunupia, Chaguanas, Caripichaima, Couva
EASTERN COUNTIES			Sangre Grande (7 beds) Mayaro (5 beds)	Manzanilla, Matura, Valencia, Coryal, Cumuto, Upper Guaico, Biche, Rio Claro, Guayaguayare.
VICTORIA	...	...	Princes Town (37 beds)	Friendship Village, Penal, Rock, Gasparillo, Claxton Bay, Moruga, Rambert Village, Guaracara, Indian Walk, Marabella, Lengua, Bien Venue, Ste. Madeleine, San Fernando, Government Dispensary, Tableland, Moruga, Diamond Village, Rock.
ST. PATRICK	...	...	Cedros (43 beds)	Siparia Health Centre, Debe, La Brea, Point Fortin, Chatham, Erin, Granville, Fyzabad, Palo Seco, Oropouche, Icacos, Hubertstown, Penal.
TOBAGO	...	...		Roxborough, Belle Garden, Plymouth, Bethel, Les Couteaux, Mason Hall, Moriah, Parlatuvier, Castara, Pembroke, Delaford, Mount St. George, Speyside, Charlotteville, Scarborough, New Grange, Canaan,

TABLE II

## 235. NUMBER OF ADMISSIONS, &amp;C., AT THE GENERAL HOSPITALS

<i>General Hospitals</i>	<i>No. of Beds</i>	<i>No. Admitted</i>	<i>No. Discharged</i>	<i>No. Died</i>	<i>Out-patients Casualty and Special Clinics</i>
Port-of-Spain ...	480	12,692	11,748	957	46,134
San Fernando ...	382	9,442	8,741	703	19,825
Tobago—					
Scarborough ...	70	2,142	2,047	90	2,200
Total ...	932	24,276	22,536	1,750	68,159



SLUM CLEARANCE: TYPICAL TWO-STOREYED FLATS



HEAD TEACHER'S QUARTERS, GOVERNMENT SCHOOL, LA PASTORA





CENTRAL LIBRARY VAN SERVICE



SLUM CLEARANCE: TYPICAL THREE-STOREYED FLATS





EXTRACTING "WET MEAT" FROM COCONUTS TO MAKE COPRA



TACARIGUA (RICE) IRRIGATION SCHEME





OIL REFINERIES: POINTE-A-PIERRE



PORT OF SPAIN WHARF

## HOUSING

236. There are three types of housing for the poorer sections of the population of Trinidad and Tobago namely, rural tapia huts, rural cottages, and urban slums.

237. Rural tapia huts are nearly all constructed by the occupier and his family and owned by them, either on their own or rented land in hamlets off the main roads. These huts usually contain two inner rooms, and a gallery around one or more of the sides. The floor is beaten earth, the thatch roof is of palm leaves and the siding is of round wood poles with tapia (wattle and daub).

238. Rural cottages of the more advanced group have two to four rooms, with a gallery and kitchen, wooden floors, galvanized iron roof, sides of wood, concrete nogging, hollow clay tiles or higher grade of tapia covered with plaster. These cottages are usually chattel houses on rented land, and located mainly in ribbon development formation along the main roads.

239. Urban slums are rooms rented out singly in old decayed houses or congested barracks arranged to bring a high aggregate return to the owners. Repairs and maintenance are negligible and they are foul, dark and insanitary. It is in this class that the most pressing problem lies and the Slum Clearance Committee is continuing forcibly to acquire and demolish the insanitary dwellings and build new modern accommodation.

240. Work was continued in the slum areas of Port-of-Spain and San Fernando during the year. 120 flats of 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom designs were constructed in Port-of-Spain, and 24 of 3-bedroom design in San Fernando, thus bringing the total number of flats so far completed in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando to 228 and 72 respectively. Under these projects it is proposed to construct an additional 390 flats in Port-of-Spain and 112 in San Fernando if finances permit.

241. One hundred and twenty-six families were removed from slum dwellings to be demolished in Port-of-Spain ; 92 were given flats ; 3 were rehoused at Morvant ; 3 were placed in temporary accommodation ; and 13 were removed to a decanting centre.

242. The rentals of the 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom flats in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando have been fixed at the uneconomic figures of \$9.00, \$12.00 and \$15.00 per month respectively, and this has only been made possible by the contributions payable by Government and the local authorities of the City of Port-of-Spain and the Borough of San Fernando, under the provisions of the Slum Clearance and Housing Ordinance, towards the subsidisation of such rentals.

*Slum clearance, Port-of-Spain :*

243. In block 3 seven buildings comprising 120 flats were completed in 1947.

244. In block 4 two sites were cleared for shops with dwelling flats above. Tenders for the buildings were obtained from contractors.

245. In block 5 a start was made, but clearance was only obtained to erect three buildings.

246. In block 8 a modification was made to allow the southern section to remain in private ownership and permit Prince Street to be developed as a commercial street.

*Slum clearance, San Fernando :*

247. In block 2/3 twenty-four further flats were finished and the remainder of the projected flats started.

248. In block 5 partial clearance was made for the new flats.

249. In block 11 a start was made on the foundations of the eight buildings containing 32 flats.

250. The sewerage disposal arrangements for the flats in blocks 5 and 11 were started.

251. A trade centre at Les Efforts housing settlement was erected to facilitate the settlers in this area.

*Morvant housing settlement :*

252. The private enterprises of the drug store and co-operative bakery were in operation during the year, and a start was made on the cinema and nearby café. The construction of a general market and three houses for the junior staff was completed by the Works and Hydraulics Department. A vicarage for the priest-in-charge was constructed by the Anglican Church authorities.

253. The majority of the roads were re-surfaced, and handed over to the Local Road Board.

254. Fifty new cottages were erected, and were completed except for the installation of water service.

255. One house was destroyed by fire during the year.

256. A new general sewerage disposal plant for the main valley was installed to cope with the extended and future buildings.

*Caroni and Williamsville rural housing schemes :*

257. Installation of the water services for the Caroni and Williamsville rural housing schemes were started.

258. At the close of the year the Commission had completed the construction of the following houses, in its various housing settlements. Practically all of them are tenanted.

	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom
Morvant ... ..	168	*495	131
St. James ... ..	90	—	—
Mon Repos and Navet	38	306	58
Hubertstown ... ..	—	51	—
Siparia ... ..	—	20	—
Les Efforts ... ..	—	30	22
	<hr/> 296 <hr/>	<hr/> 902 <hr/>	<hr/> 211 <hr/>

259. The rentals of the 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom houses in the above settlements are fixed at the uneconomic rentals of \$4.00, \$6.00 and \$12.00 per month respectively, except in the oil-bearing districts at Hubertstown and Siparia where the 2-bedroom houses are rented at \$10.00 per month each. In the settlements located within Port-of-Spain and San Fernando contributions are payable by Government and the local authorities towards subsidisation of the rentals, and in settlements located outside those towns the full contribution (namely the amount payable by Government plus an additional contribution at the same rate) is payable from the general revenue of the Colony.

260. Mr. M. F. Costello, M.R.I.A., A.M.T.P.I., town planner, arrived in the Colony in May 1947. At the close of the year he had submitted his primary report and outline plan for Port-of-Spain and environs.

261. *Josephine Shaw House* : After 18 months of planning and preparation, the Josephine Shaw House was opened on the 12th June, 1947, by Lady Shaw in Henry Street, Port-of-Spain, as a hostel for 66 young working girls. The original house which was purchased by Government was adapted to form common rooms, matron's quarters and some sleeping rooms, and a wing was erected for the main bedroom accommodation. Nearly all the rooms are single and are attractively furnished with essentials. On the recommendation of the *ad hoc* Hostels Committee which assisted in drawing up the plans, the Salvation Army accepted the responsibility for administering the House and appointed as matron, an officer with considerable experience in war time hostels, in England. Under the original agreement which covers a period of 5 years, Government has the right to appoint a small advisory committee which works with the Salvation Army in ensuring that the hostel fulfils the social need and that it receives the advantage of any services which are available to the girls.

#### SOCIAL WELFARE

##### *The promotion of community life :*

262. Promotion of community life is effected by the Social Welfare Department and Trinidad and Tobago Welfare, a voluntary organisation devoted to encouraging welfare work in rural areas.

263. Rural development work by the Social Welfare Department takes the form mainly of assisting rural communities to organise themselves into strong voluntary associations and to undertake activities aiming at community improvement, both socially and economically. Most of the work of the rural welfare officers is therefore with groups, advising and assisting them in their organisation, programmes and activities.

264. Activities are directed along practical channels, similar to the "better village" approach carried out in other agricultural countries, and include the encouragement of handicrafts, cottage industries and village fairs, the promotion of thrift and co-operative enterprise, the provision of community meeting places, the carrying out of health campaigns, cookery demonstrations and other home improvement projects. New features are also introduced into the recreational social and cultural programmes of individual clubs and groups.

265. The groups with which the rural officers are in contact range from such primary groups as youth groups, women's groups, thrift and study groups, co-operatives groups, sports clubs, handicraft groups and welfare associations (with and without separate sections), to district welfare councils, the council being a secondary body made up of representatives from the various groups of its area which are affiliated to it. Community organisation was observed to follow two main lines. In some areas the first group formed is a general welfare association with one set of officers : as its programme develops and its activities become more specialised the association creates separate sections for youth, women, thrift and so on with separate officers for each section. In other areas, especially where there is some influence of town life, the tendency is to form separate specialised groups from the beginning and later co-ordinate activities by forming a district welfare council.

266. The year 1947 saw the formation of many women's, youth, thrift, co-operative and general welfare groups in new areas as well as four new district welfare councils, and a consolidation and extension of activities in existing groups.

267. In some 24 areas the local community groups have formed voluntary district welfare councils—sometimes called community councils—to co-ordinate and promote welfare activities on an area basis and have done valuable work beyond the scope of primary groups and in building up a sense of responsibility.

268. A colony federation of women's groups formed in 1946 now has 86 women's groups as member organisations federated through 8 district federations. Activities have ranged from practical handicrafts of all kinds designed for home improvement, wood-work, knitting, sewing, embroidery, straw work and the like, the care of infants and small children, cooking and dietary with the very important ancillary activity of green vegetable gardening, and they have also included the organisation of saving and thrift groups and buying clubs. In many villages the women's groups have provided recreation and entertainment both for themselves and for the villagers.

In 1946 it was mutually agreed between the Social Welfare Department and Trinidad and Tobago Welfare that while the rural officers of the department should handle all general district work, Trinidad and Tobago Welfare should assume the specialised duty of sponsoring co-operative activities and in teaching and organising handicrafts. At the end of 1947 Trinidad and Tobago Welfare was in touch with 39 thrift and credit societies with deposits amounting to over \$12,000.

*Community centres :*

269. At the beginning of 1946 Government granted \$11,400 towards assisting local communities in building community centres ; \$7,500 was allocated to Scarborough, Tobago, \$3,000 to Mon Repos, and \$900 to Sans Souci Welfare Association for that purpose. These grants were made on the basis of efforts already shown, the condition that the community would raise a similar amount in cost of materials and labour and in relation to size of population. In several other parts of the colony the community councils or groups have made independent efforts to obtain accommodation for community purposes. Among these districts are Arima, New Grant, Upper Laventille, Fishing Pond, Puzzle Island, Mayaro, Brothers Road (Trinidad) and Runnemede, Spring Gardens (Tobago).

270. The Couva community house, which was acquired by Government in 1945, was in October, 1947, handed to the care of the newly formed Couva community council. A branch unit of the central library is lodged in this community house.

271. The Morvant community centre, situated in the housing estate near Port-of-Spain, has been used for club meetings, health talks, cinema shows and social evenings, but it still cannot be said to be the accepted meeting place for all residents in this difficult new housing area.

*Visual Education :*

272. In January, 1947, the operation of the 3 mobile cinema units previously administered by the Information Department was transferred to the Social Welfare Department. Shows were given at regular intervals at institutions and in deep rural areas where films of an educational nature, such as health, agriculture, physical fitness and the like, interspersed with some diversional films, were related by personal commentary to the life of the people in the audiences.

*Relief of the destitute and disabled :*

273. Provision for the relief of the disabled and destitute is contained in the Poor Relief Ordinance and for assistance to the aged and the blind in the Old Age Pensions Ordinance.



274. Public assistance is granted on the basis of medical certification of disability, regardless of age and in necessitous cases classified as such by an investigating officer of the Public Assistance and Old Age Pensions Department.

275. Awards under the Old Age Pensions Ordinance (which provides a non-contributory system) are subject to a means test. The qualifying age for old age pension is 65 years. The maximum award is \$3.00 per month plus \$2.00 per month temporary war allowance.

276. In the year 1942, a temporary war allowance of \$1.00 per month was paid to every old age pensioner with effect from 1st January. This allowance was increased to \$1.50 per month from 1st January, 1943, and to \$2.00 per month from 1st January, 1944.

277. In 1947, 7,555 adults and children received relief amounting to \$223,374.58 as compared with 6,689 adults and children who received relief amounting to \$187,869.19 in 1946 while the following statement shows the number of pensioners and the amounts paid to them during the three years ending December, 1947 :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Pensions</i>	<i>Pensions</i>	<i>T.W.A.</i>	<i>Total</i>
1945	16,621	\$552,395.94	\$376,236.71	\$928,632.65
1946	16,592	555,886.06	378,690.28	934,567.34
1947	16,105	560,167.30	381,326.67	941,493.97

278. Recipients of poor relief and old age pensions are granted free medical attention and medicine at health centres.

279. In addition to relieving immediate distress in a large number of cases, efforts directed to rehabilitation during last year resulted in the removal from the list of a number of cases previously regarded as permanent clients.

280. With a view to improving the condition of the poor and the aged certain proposals for providing more flexibility in the system of award and for broadening the scope of relief and old age pensions are at present under active consideration.

281. The case-working sections of the Social Welfare Department handled 2,238 cases in 1947 as compared with 1,978 in 1946. 1,629 of these cases were closed during the year of which 691 were adjusted with reasonable satisfaction, 248 referred to other agencies and 181 were not adjusted.

*Blind :*

282. The year 1947 was mainly occupied in preparation for carrying out the recommendations of the *ad hoc* committee appointed under the chairmanship of the Social Welfare Officer in 1945, to examine and make recommendations on provisions for the training and welfare of the blind in the colony. An Ordinance to incorporate the Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association and enable it to take over, modernise and extend the work of the committee of the Institute for the Blind which was operating under the Board of Industrial Training Ordinance, was passed into law in October, 1947. In the meantime, the provisional council of the Association had been in continuous consultation with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and was fortunate to receive an offer from the Canadian organisation to loan its senior field consultant, Mr. D. B. Lawley for three to four months at the end of 1947 and the early part of 1948 to ensure that the Association determined its policy and drafted its early programmes on sound lines. The Canadian National Institute agreed to pay all expenses other than those of maintenance and travelling in Trinidad.

283. Mr. Lawley accompanied by his wife, who is a fully qualified public health nurse, arrived in Trinidad in November, 1947. He has already enabled the Association to make rapid strides towards realising its objective. A completely new attitude has been adopted to the work, namely to replace the old attempt to give comfort and some training to the small number of blind people who could be accommodated in the institute spreading the activities of the Association with a view so to training blind people that they can take their place side by side with sighted persons, as normal members of the community.

*Deaf :*

284. The Social Welfare Department has done all it could to assist the Association in aid of the deaf which has now firmly established its school for deaf children at Cascade. Government made a further grant of \$4,000 towards the expenses and the department has co-operated in many individual cases. The Association has accepted one child from Barbados and is preparing to accept another. The progress made by those of the children who have been in the care of the Association for well over a year, is quite remarkable and this Association deserves every support. Through its efforts, a group of children, who previously had little hope of becoming even partially self-supporting, now have every chance of becoming responsible citizens.

## THE PROBATION SERVICE

285. The probation service continued to develop along the lines which were adopted by the Probation Advisory Committee in 1945.

286. Probation case committees are operating in three of the magisterial districts. The magistrate of the district is the chairman and the committee is representative of all the principal denominational bodies and other voluntary social workers of the Colony. The principal probation officer is an *ex-officio* member of all these committees and the district probation officer its secretary.

287. A revised Probation of Offenders Ordinance was passed by the legislature during the year.

288. Greater use is being made of probation in the Colony as judges and magistrates have at their disposal probation officers whenever they are required. The full-time probation officers are chiefly engaged in work among adults particularly in the age group 16-21 years.

289. During the year there have been 562 adults and 302 juveniles under supervision. There has been continued advance in the use of probation methods among juvenile offenders. 49.85 per cent. of the total number charged with criminal offences were placed under supervision in 1947 as compared with 31.15 per cent. in 1946 and 14.55 per cent. in 1945.

290. There are now in the Colony six full-time male probation officers who are at the disposal of the judges and magistrates.

291. Part-time officers are representatives of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Corpus Christi Carmelite Sisters and the Salvation Army. They comprise two male and one female Roman Catholic officers, three male and four female Salvation Army officers. The part-time male officers supervise the majority of male juveniles and the female officers supervise both juvenile and adult female probationers.

292. Probation associates have been recruited to assist in the rehabilitation of offenders. They are men and women of good will and include Carmelite Sisters, Christians of other denominations, Hindus and Muslims. They are members of the Trinidad and Tobago Probation Officers Association which is affiliated to the National Probation Officers Association of Great Britain.

293. An experiment was carried out in the St. George East magisterial district for six months when 298 persons fined were placed under the supervision of the probation officers with satisfactory results.

294. Under the Supreme Court Rules of 1946, petitions of poor persons are submitted to the principal probation officer for investigation into the means of the applicants and to conduct preliminary enquiries before the final presentation to the committee

of the Incorporated Law Society of Trinidad and Tobago. To date 389 petitions have been received by the principal probation officer. The probation officers obtained reconciliation in 15 cases seeking divorce and 18 cases of property disputes.

295. During the year under review the principal probation officer trained officers for two other Colonies, Grenada and St. Lucia, as well as giving short courses to observers in social welfare from Jamaica, British Guiana and Barbados.

296. Some young people released on licence from the orphanages and industrial schools are placed under the supervision of the probation officers who look after their rehabilitation.

297. The cost per capita of probation was \$31.85 per annum for 1947 as compared with \$40.00 for 1946.

#### TOTALS OF CASES ON PROBATION AND THOSE COMPLETED

##### TOTAL NUMBER OF ADULTS AND JUVENILES UNDER SUPERVISION DURING THE YEAR 1947

<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
Adult ...	501	Adult ...	61	Adult ... 562
Juvenile ...	277	Juvenile ...	25	Juvenile ... 302
	<u>778</u>		<u>86</u>	<u>864</u>

##### TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES COMPLETED

<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
Adult ...	158	Adult ...	20	Adult ... 178
Juvenile ...	66	Juvenile ...	7	Juvenile ... 73
	<u>222</u>		<u>27</u>	<u>251</u>

##### PERCENTAGE OF CASES COMPLETED SATISFACTORILY

<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
Adults ...	87.9	Adults ...	95.	
Juvenile ...	87.8	Juvenile ...	85.7	

##### PERCENTAGE OF CASES COMPLETED UNSATISFACTORILY

<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>	
Adults ...	12.1	Adult ...	5
Juvenile ...	12.2	Juvenile ...	14.5

## Chapter 8 : Legislation

298. During the year 1947, 47 ordinances were enacted, of which particulars of the more important are as follows :—

*Ordinance No. 3 of 1947—The Emergency Powers Ordinance, 1947.*

299. As a result of a strike by a limited number of workers employed on the oilfields which had lasted for some weeks and which had resulted in a number of acts of violence and intimidation, culminating on the night of the 16th January when two oilwells were set on fire by undoubted acts of sabotage and other acts of sabotage including the emptying of reservoirs, presumably with the intention that water should not be available to extinguish any fires which might be started, this ordinance was enacted forthwith with the object of providing measures to control the emergency which has arisen as a result of these acts of sabotage which were endangering public safety at that time. The main objects of the bill were to enable the Governor to make regulations for the imposition of curfew in any area where it was considered essential so to do, to prohibit unauthorised persons from approaching oilwells and to order the removal of persons regarded as a potential danger during the period of emergency from the area of the oilfields.

*Ordinance No. 4 of 1947—The Rent Restriction (Amendment) Ordinance, 1947 :*

300. This ordinance imposed further restrictions on the demand and payment of premiums in respect of premises to which the Rent Restriction Ordinances apply. The meaning of premium has been extended to include any overcharge on the sale of furniture or other articles, or the goodwill or stock of, or the fixtures used in connection with a business, the purchase of which is required as a condition of the grant, renewal or continuance of a tenancy or the giving up of possession of premises rented under a monthly tenancy, and it is now an offence for a person to demand, accept or pay such a premium in respect of the grant, renewal or continuance of a tenancy, or any premium as consideration for the giving up of possession of premises rented under a monthly tenancy. A prospective tenant required to purchase property is protected by a provision imposing on the vendor the duty of supplying the purchaser with an itemised account of the property and the price paid for each item of property ; and the vendor is liable to a penalty for a breach of this duty.

*Ordinance No. 5 of 1947—The Patents, Designs and Trade Marks Ordinance, 1947 :*

301. This ordinance enacted provisions similar to those contained in sections 4, 6 and 7 of the Patents and Designs Act of 1946 of the United Kingdom.

*Ordinance No. 6 of 1947—The Labour Statistic Ordinance, 1947 :*

302. This ordinance made provision for the collection of information from employers regarding the number, wages, hours and working conditions of work people employed and for the periodic returns of the information relating to these matters.

*Ordinance No. 12 of 1947—The Trinidad Consolidated Telephones (Sale of Tobago Telephone System) Ordinance, 1947 :*

303. This ordinance provided for the sale of the Government telephone system of Tobago to the Trinidad Consolidated Telephones Limited on payment by this company of a sum of \$38,804.74.

*Ordinance No. 14 of 1947—The Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association (Incorporation) Ordinance, 1947.*

304. This Ordinance established an association charged with the promotion of the welfare of the blind of the colony. The association now conducts the Institute for the Blind previously maintained and carried on by the Board of Industrial Training and the association has power to extend the scope of its activities to embrace the entire colony, collaborating for this purpose with voluntary organisations having similar ideals, and directing and co-ordinating the operations of subsidiary associations and committees.

*Ordinance No. 18 of 1947—The Lands and Buildings Taxes, Ordinance, 1947 :*

305. The Lands and Buildings Taxes Ordinance imposes a tax at the rate of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per centum on buildings outside the boundaries of the three Corporations, and there is no power to increase the rate in areas where additional amenities, such as street lighting, are provided. The Corporations have such power and clause 2 of this Ordinance confers a similar power on Government to raise the rate to 10 per centum.

*Ordinance No. 19 of 1947—The Assurance Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1947 :*

306. The Assurance Companies Ordinance, 1943, makes provision for exempting any United Kingdom assurance company doing business in the colony from payment of a deposit here if it has complied with the United Kingdom law with respect to deposits and guarantees. The Assurance Companies Act, 1946, has now altered the law of the United Kingdom with regard to the making of deposits by abolishing deposits for all new insurance companies (which must now have a paid-up share capital of £50,000) and providing that two years after the coming into force of the Act, and, in the case of a new company, two years after incorporation, a company carrying on general business must

be in such a position that the value of its assets exceeds the amount of its liabilities by £50,000 or one-tenth of the general premium income of the company in its last preceding financial year, whichever is the greater, and it was considered that the safeguards contained in this legislation afforded adequate protection for the colony against the financial instability of United Kingdom companies carrying on insurance business here. The Ordinance, therefore, relates the provisions of the local law to the provisions of the United Kingdom law.

307. Further amendments to sections 9, 10, 32 and 33 of the 1943 Ordinance enable assurance companies to submit type-written instead of printed accounts, abstracts and statements to the Registrar General where printing would involve the companies in unnecessary expense.

*Ordinance No. 20 of 1947—The Agricultural Credit Bank (Amendment) Ordinance, 1947 :*

308. Under the Agricultural Credit Bank Ordinance, No. 14 of 1943, the Agricultural Credit Bank took over all the rights made by Government in favour of Agricultural Co-operative Societies and Agricultural Credit Societies and also in respect of outstanding advances made by Government under the Cocoa Industry Relief Ordinance and the Agricultural Industry Hurricane Relief Ordinance. The Bank also took over the responsibility of and liability for these loans and advances.

309. It was considered, however, that the bank should not be held liable to repay Government the amounts of any of these loans or advances which are irrecoverable and this ordinance made provision accordingly.

*Ordinance No. 21 of 1947—The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1947 :*

310. The object of this ordinance was to make further provision for the avoidance of double taxation of income and to prevent fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income. Two important changes in income tax legislation have been made :—

- (a) the adoption, with reference to the exigibility to tax on income, of the "arising basis" in respect of gains or profits, that is to say, the taxation of the total income of persons resident in the colony where arising and whether remitted to the colony or not, but not of income arising outside the colony from unearned income and is not brought into the colony from income arising outside the colony to a person who is not ordinarily resident or domiciled in the colony and not brought into the colony.

- (b) the substitution of "tax credits" for the existing method of relief from double taxation where applicable. The conclusion of arrangements for relief from double taxation between the Government of this colony and any other Government is entrusted to the Governor in Council who may also make rules for carrying out the provisions of any such arrangements.

*Ordinance No. 23 of 1947 —The Hindu Marriage (Amendment) Ordinance, 1947 :*

311. This ordinance authorises the Governor to delegate power previously confined to himself to grant licences to priests of the Hindu religion to be marriage officers.

*Ordinance No. 24 of 1947 —The Marriage (Amendment) Ordinance, 1947 :*

312. This ordinance authorises the Governor to delegate his powers under the Marriage Ordinance—

- (a) to issue licences for the appointment of marriage officers ; and
- (b) to authorise the issue by district registrars of certificates dispensing with the requirement of notice of intended marriage and of residential qualifications in case of any non-resident parties to marriage.

The previous law required this power to be exercised by the Governor by writing under his hand.

*Ordinance No. 25 of 1947 —The Income Tax (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, 1947 :*

313. This ordinance provides additional revenue by increasing the rates of income tax in every case. The increase in the rate applicable to a life insurance company is to bring that rate up to the average rate applicable to an individual whose net chargeable income is \$4,800.00.

314. The ordinance increased the allowance made for a child from \$200.00 to \$300.00. The higher allowance for expenses up to a maximum of \$300.00 will no longer be made for a child being educated at a primary school ; on the other hand, it will be extended to a child receiving full-time instruction abroad at a trade or technical school. The term "child" has been extended to include a person under the age of 18 years.

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*Ordinance No. 27 of 1947 —The Income Tax (In Aid of Industry) Ordinance, 1947 :*

316. This ordinance is intended to encourage capital expenditure in the following trades :—

- (a) the manufacture and refining of sugar and its by-products ;
- (b) the distilling of rum ;
- (c) the working of any mine, oilwell, or other source of mineral deposits and the manufacture, refining and processing of other minerals and other derivatives ;
- (d) any other trade to which the Governor in Council may declare that the ordinance shall be applicable.

317. With this end in view, certain capital expenditure will be treated in the proportions contained in the ordinance as deductions in arriving at a chargeable income. In the case of "industrial buildings" the initial allowance of ten per centum of such expenditure will be allowed followed by annual allowances of two per centum over a period of 50 years. In the case of machinery, an initial allowance of 20 per centum is provided for, but unlike the United Kingdom the prevailing rates only of allowances for the exhaustion by wear and tear of machinery will be allowed annually. In the case of industrial buildings, for such "wear and tear" allowance will be substituted the annual allowance, which is no more generous to the taxpayer.

318. The provisions are based on cognate provisions in the United Kingdom Income Tax Act, 1945, but many substantial concessions in the United Kingdom Act are not embodied in this ordinance.

319. Part IV of the ordinance provides for an annual allowance of ten per centum of expenditure in erecting residences for work people—but no allowances can be claimed for repairs. This allowance will give the necessary stimulus to the oil and sugar industries erecting such residences, and should assist substantially in the solution of the housing problem. This part of the ordinance is incorporated in substitution for certain generous allowances particularly to the extractive industries in respect of capital expenditure on searching for or on discovering and testing deposits or winning access thereto, as well as on scientific research, &c.

*Ordinance No. 28 of 1947—The Gambling (Amendment) Ordinance, 1947 :*

320. In order to increase the general revenue of the Colony, this ordinance enables duty to be collected on all lotteries organised and controlled by the Trinidad Turf Club and racing club affiliates, including those hitherto duty free. Pari-mutuel tickets have hitherto been exempt from duty under the Gambling Ordinance.

321. This ordinance also increases the rate of duty on all sweepstake tickets sold, and provides that such duty will be payable on units of 12 cents paid for a ticket. Hitherto no duty was payable where the price fixed for a ticket did not exceed 12 cents.

*Ordinance No. 31 of 1947—The Letting of Houses (Implied Terms) Ordinance, 1947 :*

322. The effect of this ordinance is to make it a condition in any contract for letting any house for human habitation that the house is at the commencement of the tenancy in good repair and reasonably fit for human habitation and that the landlord will keep it in such repair notwithstanding any term of the contract or lease to the contrary.

*Ordinance No. 33 of 1947—The Trade Disputes and Protection of Property (Amendment) Ordinance, 1947 :*

323. The amendments to the law in the United Kingdom relating to trade unions by the repeal of the United Kingdom Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Act of 1927 are made to the law in this Colony in so far as the provisions of the Act of 1927 applied thereto, with the exception that so far as political funds are concerned the law of contracting-in still maintains.

*Ordinance No. 35 of 1947—The Probation of Offenders Ordinance, 1947 :*

324. This ordinance brings the law relating to the probation of offenders up to date, defines and simplifies the application of probation methods and provides for the better organization of the probation service.

325. In its main provisions it follows the draft model ordinance circulated by the Secretary of State.

326. The ordinance differs from the model in the following respects :

(1) It does not provide that, before a probation order can be made, the offender must express his willingness to comply with it. It is felt that the bill would not work in this Colony if offenders knew they had it in their power to say whether they would be put on probation or not.

(2) Section 4 provides that a probationer may be ordered to attend at a probation training centre.

(3) Section 7 (3) provides that, in special circumstances, the court may remit sums unpaid for costs, damages or compensation. It is intended that this provision will only be used in deserving cases.

(4) Section 8 will, in cases where the probationer has expressed willingness to comply with the condition, enable the probation officer to co-operate with the medical practitioners, particularly in cases of nervous or psychological disorders contributory to the offence committed.

(5) Section 19 gives power to the Governor to establish probation training centres.

*Ordinance No. 40 of 1947—The Land Acquisition Ordinance, 1947 :*

327. This ordinance consolidates various ordinances relating to land acquisition and incorporates recommendations made by the Bar Council (a) for publication of every acquisition in the local newspapers in addition to the *Royal Gazette*. and (b) for persons failing to make claims for compensation within the statutory period of 12 months to be able to obtain an extension of time for so doing from the Governor in Executive Council.

*Ordinance No. 43 of 1947—The Diplomatic Privileges (Extension) Ordinance, 1947 :*

328. This ordinance enables diplomatic privileges and amenities to be conferred on international organizations, including the United Nations, and on the officers of such organizations and is based upon the provisions of the Diplomatic Privileges (Extension) Acts, 1944 and 1946 of England.

*Ordinance No. 47 of 1947. The Education (Amendment) Ordinance, 1947.*

329. This ordinance enables four colonial scholarships and also one colonial scholarship for girls to be awarded by the Governor in Council under the Education Ordinance. The existing law provides for the award of three colonial scholarships.

## Chapter 9 : Justice

330. The laws of the colony of Trinidad and Tobago as administered in the courts are the Common Law of England, the doctrines of Equity and Statutes of general application of the Imperial Parliament which were in force in England on the 1st March, 1848, and are deemed to have been introduced into and enacted in the colony as from that date, and local ordinances contained in 1940 Revised Edition of the Laws of Trinidad and Tobago and such other ordinances passed from year to year thereafter by the Legislature.

331. The courts of the colony are as follows :—

A. *The Supreme Court :*

This Court is a Superior Court of Record and consists of a Chief Justice, a Senior Puisne Judge and such other Puisne Judges as the Governor shall from time to time appoint. The Chief Justice is the President of the Supreme Court and is designated the Chief Justice of Trinidad and Tobago ; the Senior Puisne Judge ranks next to the Chief Justice and is designated the Senior Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Trinidad and Tobago ; and the other Puisne Judges rank after the Senior Puisne Judge according to the dates of their respective appointments and are designated Puisne Judges of the Supreme Court of Trinidad and Tobago. In this court law and equity are concurrently administered and in it is vested all jurisdiction in Matrimonial Causes, Lunacy, Bankruptcy, Admiralty, suits to establish legitimacy, &c. Its jurisdiction is exercised as nearly as possible in accordance with the practice and procedure for the time being in force in the High Court of Justice in England so far as such practice and procedure are not displaced by local Rules of Court.

Every action and proceeding and all business arising out of the same is, so far as is practicable and convenient, heard and determined by a single judge except such actions or proceedings as are ordered by the Supreme Court to be tried by a jury. In such cases nine jurors form the array.

Indictable offences are also tried by the judges of this court sitting with a common jury of nine in all cases except murder when the number is increased to twelve. By order of the court a special jury of nine may in any case, whether civil or criminal (except indictments for treason or felony punishable with death) be empanelled.

The appellate jurisdiction of the court consists of :—

(i) *The Full Court :* To this court appeals are brought from the decisions of judges in the matters specified in the Judicature Ordinance. This court also hears appeals from the decisions of magistrates under the Summary Courts Ordinance and of judges of the petty civil courts. It is sufficiently constituted by two judges but frequently consists of three. Where, owing to incapacity, only one judge is available, appeals under the Summary Courts Ordinance may be heard by a single judge.

(ii) *Court of Criminal Appeal :* Persons convicted on indictment may appeal to this court as of right on any question of law and by leave of a judge on questions of fact and severity of sentence. Three judges constitute this court.

### B. *Petty Civil Courts :*

These are established in various parts of the colony and have jurisdiction to try civil matters where the cause of action does not exceed \$240.00. They have no equitable jurisdiction and follow closely on the lines of the county courts in England. They are presided over by a stipendiary magistrate of the district.

### C. *Magistrates' Courts :*

They are counter parts of English police courts and exercise similar jurisdiction in criminal and quasi-criminal courts.

### D. *Coroners' Courts :*

This court is presided over by a stipendiary magistrate of the district. Its functions and procedure are similar to those of coroners in England except that it sits without a jury.

Where, however, the matter for inquiry arises in his harbour, a harbour master has all the powers and jurisdiction to discharge the duties of a coroner.

### E. *West Indian Court of Appeal :*

This court is a superior court of record for the West Indian colonies and is created by the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919. It hears and determines appeals, so far as this colony is concerned, from decisions of the Supreme Court in its civil jurisdiction in matters not specifically assigned to the Full Court. It is constituted by any three Chief Justices of the colonies of Trinidad, British Guiana, Barbados, and the Leeward and Windward Islands and sits in the colony from which the appeal comes. Its President and Principal Registrar are the Chief Justice and Registrar respectively of Trinidad and Tobago.

332. Barristers and solicitors perform the same functions respectively in the colony as in the United Kingdom. Solicitors have no right of audience in the Supreme Court except before a Judge in Chambers.

333. The judges of the Supreme Court are *ex-officio* commissioners under the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance and hear all claims arising under the ordinance for compensation by injured workmen.

## POLICE

334. The police force is in charge of a commissioner and consists of a deputy commissioner, twenty-two (22) superintendents and assistant superintendents, two (2) cadets, twenty-seven (27) inspectors, two hundred and seventy-nine (279) non-commissioned officers and one thousand and eighty-one (1,081) constables. It is an armed force and is charged with the

prevention and detection of crime and the suppression of internal disturbances. The force is distributed amongst seven police divisions comprising 56 police stations in Trinidad and 5 stations in Tobago. It also maintains :

- (a) a separate branch for criminal investigation including a fingerprint and photograph bureau (72,999 prints on record),
- (b) a traffic branch,
- (c) a depot for the training of recruits, and for advanced instruction and refresher courses for members of the force,
- (d) a band, which is under the control of a director of music who has been trained at Kneller Hall, and comprises 27 bandsmen and 6 apprentices;
- (e) a mounted section with 38 horses.

335. The police also man the whole-time fire brigades in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando. There is a volunteer section in the town of Arima and volunteer sections are also attached to the whole-time fire brigades.

336. Certain agricultural and industrial concerns police their properties with forces of supplemental police appointed as such by the commissioner who is responsible for their efficiency. An establishment of special police, available to assist the regular force when required, is maintained, sanctioned strength—880, actual strength—officers 28, other ranks 678. Similarly, volunteer fire brigades assist the regular brigades in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando and act independently in other towns.

337. The force maintains 62 motor vehicles for all purposes (in addition to fire-fighting implements) and 11 launches for protection of the harbours.

338. Post war conditions continue to result in considerable under-employment. A younger generation who were brought up in time of easy money have not been taught the necessity for working hard and the Colony is still supporting a larger number of immigrant labourers from the smaller islands who were attracted here in the boom years of the war. The police force is now up to strength. Suitable candidates are available, and the pay and conditions of service have been improved in recent years ; recruiting has been temporarily suspended, and is confined to replacements caused by normal retirements or casualties.

339. The attached figures show the incidence of more serious crime in 1947.

### MORE SERIOUS CRIMES, 1947

CRIME	No. of cases reported			Disposal of true cases				
	Total	False or mistaken of fact	True	Conviction	Discharged or acquitted after prosecution	Withdrawn or otherwise disposed of after prosecution	Pending	Not prosecuted
<i>Offences against the Person :</i>								
Abduction ...	11	2	9	1	1	—	5	2
Concealment of birth ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Murder ...	22	—	22	1	1	—	18	2
Attempted Murder (Sec. 9-13, Ch. 4. No. 9)	23	1	22	3	—	—	12	7
Rape ...	55	11	44	—	3	—	26	15
Unnatural Offences ...	33	3	30	6	—	—	23	1
Wounding (Felonious)	86	—	86	20	1	1	56	6
Throwing corrosive fluid ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Manslaughter ...	17	3	14	—	—	—	11	3
<i>Offences against property :</i>								
Arson ...	118	21	97	1	—	—	23	73
Burglary ...	115	4	111	10	2	—	10	81
Breakings ...	810	52	758	93	10	3	89	563
Forgery ...	68	1	67	24	—	—	9	34
Larceny or embezzlement of Government Funds ...	98	6	92	7	2	1	15	67
All offences under Larceny Ordinance value over \$96	321	18	303	30	7	1	58	207
Malicious damages over \$96	39	3	36	4	—	—	12	20
Robbery ...	80	8	72	7	—	—	23	42
Entering dwelling house by night ...	57	1	56	11	1	—	6	38
<i>Offences against the state :</i>								
Counterfeiting and coinage	23	—	23	—	1	1	8	13
Perjury ...	6	—	6	—	—	—	6	—
Riot ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Treason and Sedition ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total ...	1988	136	1852	217	30	7	422	1176

### PRISONS

340. The prisons and institutions administered by the Prisons Department comprise :—

- (a) Royal Gaol, Port-of-Spain—accommodation 230 males and females—all cells.
- (b) Carrera Island prison—accommodation 340 males—all cells.

- (c) H. M. Prisons, Golden Grove—new camp type of prisons under reconstruction. Housing at present 300 males—site occupied on 1st October 1947.
- (d) Young offenders' detention institution—all dormitory accommodation. Capacity 150 youths, 16–21 years.

Staff :

- 1 superintendent of prisons
- 1 deputy superintendent of prisons
- 3 assistant superintendents of prisons
- 1 matron
- 3 grade I officers
- 25 grade II officers
- 101 grade III officers
- 14 female officers
- 1 medical officer
- 1 dispenser
- 2 school teachers.

341. In the adult prisons it is possible to practice practically every trade, and good results are obtained. This is due to the fact that the majority of repairs to buildings, erection of new buildings, &c. are undertaken with prison labour under the supervision of the Public Works Department. All staff uniforms and prisoners' clothing are made by prison labour ; also all the department's furniture requirements. A certain amount of work is undertaken for private individuals, such as mat making and repairs of furniture.

342. In the Y.O.D.I. the usual activities were carried out during the year. Secular instruction was given to all inmates by qualified teachers, the subjects taught being reading, writing, arithmetic and English. Lectures were also given on personal hygiene and moral training. Inmates were employed on domestic work in the institution such as cooks, cleaners, wood-cutters and menders, and 61 lads were instructed in the trades and handicrafts of cabinet making, gardening, shoemaking, carpentry, tailoring and mat making. Outdoor and indoor games were organised and played and house matches keenly contested during the year. Regular cinema shows were also given by the Social Welfare Department throughout all the prisons and institutions.

343. Practically every prisoner is assisted in some way on his release from prison, either by monetary grants, tools, or clothing. This is in accordance with the length of sentence served. It has not yet been found practicable to form a Discharged Prisoners Aid Society but the Ladies Visiting Committee to the male prison worked with admirable enthusiasm and considerable success. The Male Official Visiting Committee was temporarily suspended during the year for their duties to be more clearly defined. The spiritual welfare of all prisoners is taken care of



by the respective denominational chaplains. The chaplain supervise the prisons' libraries, in addition to holding regular services and interviews.

344. The health of the prison population was good. The percentages of infirmary cases to the total number of prisoners admitted was 11.29. There were nine deaths including seven judicial executions. The total number of committals to prison was 7,800, or 1,942 more than in 1946. The most prevalent offence committed by males was against property and by females against the peace. 1,788 were committed for non-payment of fines, as against 1,882 in 1946, and of these 727 paid fines on admission or during sentence. For non-compliance with wife maintenance and affiliation orders 123 males were committed in 1947 as against 159 in 1946; 22 paid arrears and were discharged. 30 persons were committed for debt or contempt of court. 114 lads between 16 and 21 years were remanded to the Y.O.D.I. during the year 49 of whom were subsequently sentenced to detention. 19 of the total number sentenced had been previously inmates of the orphanages or industrial schools.

345. Two offenders were ordered corporal punishment by the courts and one award was remitted by the Governor. The Corporal Punishment Ordinance 1946, which had effect until the end of 1947, is not to be renewed.

346. The site of the ex-Royal Naval air station at Gold Grove, acquired for conversion into a prisons area, was occupied on 1st October 1947. 310 prisoners of all classes were housed in temporary wooden huts. Work was immediately started in adapting these huts and on the agricultural section. Very good progress was made and is continuing.

347. The Lunacy and Mental Treatment Ordinance was amended to provide that no person of suspected unsound mind could be committed to prison for observation.

348. The Convicts Licence Ordinance was repealed and replaced by the Released Prisoners Ordinance. This brief provides that every prisoner satisfactorily completing two-thirds of his sentence may be discharged absolutely or on licence. Prisoners who for any reason are discharged before completion, the required period can be placed on licence to report periodically to the person or persons named in the licence.

349. Gross expenditure for 1947 was \$323,121.12. The estimated value of productive labour was \$99,333.00 and \$125,969 unproductive labour.

350. The total cost of maintaining a prisoner (exclusive of upkeep of buildings) during the year was \$235.97 as compared with \$295.35 in 1946.

351. The cost of feeding alone was \$92.40 or 25.31 cents per day as compared with \$95.48 or 26.16 cents per day in 1946.

## Chapter 10 : Public Utilities

## ELECTRICITY SUPPLY.

352. The public electricity supply of Trinidad is publicly owned and operated by :—

- (a) Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission  
(Government)
- (b) Port-of-Spain Corporation Electricity Board  
(Municipal).

353. The Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission and the Port-of-Spain Corporation Electricity Board came into being on 1st January 1946 as the result of a division of the assets and liabilities of the Trinidad Electricity Board which had operated the undertaking pending the final decision of the Governor to embark upon an island-wide scheme.

354. As a result of the division, the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission took over the generation of electrical energy in the northern part of the Island and the distribution and sale of energy outside the limits of Port-of-Spain, while the Corporation Board took over the distribution and sale of energy within the city limits together with the transportation system and the housewiring and merchandising departments formerly operated by the Trinidad Electricity Board. The Corporation Board buy energy in bulk from the Commission.

355. The Commission's power station is located in Port-of-Spain and contains 7,500 Kw. of steam turbine plant and 8,300 Kw. of diesel engine plant, generating at 6,600 volts.

356. The Commission supplies about 12,000,000 units a year to about 8,000 consumers over an area extending about 4 miles north, 9 miles west, and 28 miles east of Port-of-Spain and south to Caroni.

357. The Corporation Board distributed 17,505,885 units to about 10,000 consumers within the city limits of Port-of-Spain.

## WATERWORKS :

358. The Central Water Board (constituted under the Central Waterworks Ordinance, was superseded by the Central Water Distribution Authority (established under Ordinance No. 6 of 1944) with effect from 1st July, 1944.

359. As from 1st July, 1944, the Central Water Distribution Authority took over the functions of distribution and rating of the Central Water Board, and the Department of Hydraulics (constituted under the Waterworks and Water Conservation Ordinance, 5 of 1944) assumed responsibility for those duties of the Central Water Board relating to impounding, winning, pumping and purification of water.

360. Under Ordinance 5 of 1944, certain waterworks and other property of Central Water Board were deemed to have been transferred to Government. All the remaining property not so transferred became the property of Central Water Distribution Authority in accordance with Ordinance 6 of 1944.

361. While there has been hardly any change in the principles of the Central Waterworks Ordinance as repealed and replaced by the Central Water Distribution Authority Ordinance No. 6 of 1944, the main point of difference is that whereas the Central Waterworks Ordinance dealt with "waterworks" including reservoirs, trunk mains and distributing mains; in the new Ordinance "waterworks" only means the distribution system vested in the Central Authority.

362. Government has administratively accepted the policy that the Department of Hydraulics should concern itself with the technical aspects of making potable water available for sale in bulk to the Central Authority which should be regarded as the central distributor of all water both to local distribution authorities, including the corporations of Port-of-Spain, San Fernando and Arima in bulk, and to consumers in the several distribution areas under its control through public standpipes or otherwise by means of services.

#### *Distribution system :*

363. It is the responsibility of the Central Authority to operate and maintain the distribution system and to apply its funds in extension thereof so far as may be expedient for the performance of its functions under the Ordinance.

364. The Government has undertaken to bear the capital cost of producing water under the central Colony scheme. It has also been agreed that the capital cost of new distribution systems as constructed by the Department of Hydraulics and handed over to the Central Authority for operation and maintenance should be borne by the Government. A capital value of \$1,704,418.74 was placed by Government on that portion of the waterworks assets of the Central Water Board handed over to the Central Authority under Ordinance No. 6 of 1944, and in keeping with Government's agreed policy in this connection only the interest charges thereon at the rate of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum or \$59,655.00 is repayable to Government from the funds of the Central Authority. The sinking fund charges are met from the general revenue of the Colony.

#### *Rating :*

365. The Central Authority under and by virtue of the provision of the Central Water Distribution Authority Ordinance, No. 6 of 1944, is empowered to levy and collect water rates and/or charges. Such rates and/or charges are fixed by the Central Authority from time to time and are subject to the

approval of the Governor-in-Council and to confirmation or amendment of the Legislative Council before they can be legally imposed. The principle of rating is based on the annual value of premises situated within distribution areas as defined by proclamation published in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 6 of 1944.

366. The general water rate is levied on all premises situate in distribution areas which are within a quarter of a mile from a public standpipe whether such premises are supplied with water by means of a service or not, that is to say, it is a rate payable by owners of premises which enjoy the amenities of a standpipe service.

*Metered water supplies :*

367. The Central Authority may with the approval of the Governor-in-Council conclude special agreements for supply of water in bulk to the Government or any municipality or person on such terms and conditions as may be thought appropriate. Agreements have been concluded with the Port-of-Spain and San Fernando Corporations for the supply of water in bulk for re-distribution in those municipalities at the special rate of 12c. per 1,000 gallons ; also with the Royal Naval establishments locally and the wharf superintendent for a supply to shipping at the special domestic and non-domestic rates of 25c. and 50c. per 1,000 gallons respectively ; the United States authorities, naval and army units 60c. per 1,000 gallons ; Trinidad Leaseholds, Limited—domestic 15c. per 1,000 gallons and non-domestic (shipping) 72c. per 1,000 gallons.

*Financial provisions :*

368. The Central Authority is required on or before the 15th of November of each year to submit for the approval of the Governor and the Legislative Council an estimate of probable revenue and expenditure of the Central Authority for the twelve months commencing on the following 1st January, and such estimate shall, when approved, not be departed from without the consent of the Governor and the Legislative Council.

*Revenue and expenditure, 1947 :*

369. The estimates of expenditure for the year 1947 aggregated \$457,351 of which the principal items were salaries \$104,863 ; wages \$15,594 ; purchase of water \$176,636 ; general and operating expenses \$43,375 ; charges on account of loans \$59,655. The estimated revenue was \$458,391 classified under the following main headings, namely : general water rate \$176,000 ; water service rate \$10,000 ; meter rate \$103,000 ; bulk sales \$162,000 resulting in a net estimated surplus on the year's working of \$1,040.

*Water distribution :*

370. The total quantity of water purchased by the Central Water Distribution Authority during 1947—in bulk from the Hydraulics Department—2,713,398,311 gallons ; Arima Borough Council—370,278 gallons ; and the United States Authorities—765,840 gallons—was 2,714,534,429 gallons, of which 880,209,840 gallons were supplied to the municipalities.

*Tobago water supply.*

371. At present only a comparatively small part of the island is served with a pipe-borne water supply.

372. The intake at Green Hill supplies three service reservoirs situated at different points in the distribution system, which in turn feed the districts. The rest of the island is supplied with water from wells and springs and in some cases rivers. The villages of Belle Garden, Speyside and Charlotteville are supplied with a pipe-borne water supply taken from nearby springs.

373. The intake at Green Hill is operated by the Department of Hydraulics. This department delivers water in bulk to the Central Water Distribution Authority, who are the distributing agents. They are the rating body and look after the general administration of the distribution system.

374. A new dam is being built at Hillsborough, which when completed will serve many of the districts which are in need of water.

## BROADCASTING

375. 1947 saw the inauguration of the Colony's first broadcasting service. Negotiations, which had been pending since 1939, were concluded by an agreement and licence drawn up in April 1947 between Government and the Trinidad Broadcasting Co. Ltd. and laid before the Legislature in May 1947. Under the terms of the agreement the transmitter and transmission station at Caroni which were vested in Government were taken over by the Company, and on the 31st August 1947 "Radio Trinidad" was officially opened by the Governor who read a message of greeting from the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

376. The main transmitter of "Radio Trinidad" broadcasts on a frequency of 1295 kilocycles in the 232 metre band. A smaller powered transmitter broadcasts on 9625 kilocycles in the 31 metre band. For local reception in Trinidad and Tobago. listeners generally use the 1295 K/cs. frequency, whilst for listeners overseas the 9625 K/cs. frequency is expected to give reception in most of the Caribbean colonies throughout the day and in the early evening at good signal strength.

377. Transmission hours are as follows :—*Sundays* 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. *Week-days*—7 a.m. to 9 a.m. ; 12 noon to 2 p.m. ; and 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

378. Under the terms of the agreement and licence with the Trinidad Broadcasting Co. Ltd., 90 minutes are reserved daily for use by Government. A Government broadcasting committee was officially set up in November 1947 to plan systematic and organised use of this time. This Committee comprises the Director of Education (chairman), the elected Member for North Port-of-Spain, and the Information Officer. Material is collected from Government departments for use in specially arranged programmes termed "what the people want to know". It is hoped by this means to explain Government's policy to the people and to inform them as to the working of Government machinery.

379. At the 31st December 1947 licensed owners of wireless receiving sets numbered 9,227 as compared with 8,422 in 1946. In conjunction with "Radio Trinidad", the rediffusion wired service is still operated by Radio Distribution Ltd. This service, which was formerly limited to Port-of-Spain and suburbs with about 4,000 subscribers, has now been extended to San Fernando and has a considerably greater number of subscribers. The service broadcasts all "Radio Trinidad's" programmes in addition to its own programmes.

380. In conformity with Article XV of the Base Lease Agreement and as the climax to discussions which started in 1940 between the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States of America, arrangements were made for representatives of the Colonial Government and the United States of America to discuss modification of the programme schedule and transmitting power of Station W.V.D.I. (American Forces) at Fort Read. This station was set up by the United States military authorities in war time for service purposes. Mutual agreement was arrived at locally respecting the use of two transmitters, one at Chaguaramas and one at Fort Read, of 50 watts each in substitution for the existing 1,000 watts station.

## Chapter II : Communications

381. The Colony is connected with the British Isles, Europe, North and South America, the other West Indian Islands, Africa, Asia and Australia by British and foreign steamships.

382. The voyage by sea both to London and to Halifax takes between twelve and fourteen days according to itinerary, and to New York four to five days. Modern aviation has placed Trinidad within shorter travelling time to the points mentioned, the service between Trinidad and New York taking  $12\frac{1}{2}$  hours and between Trinidad and London 32 hours.

383. Other external communications are maintained :—  
 (a) by cable and wireless  
 (b) by Government wireless stations in Trinidad and Tobago.
384. Internal communications comprise :—  
 A Government coastal steamer to and around Tobago  
 Also small sailing coastal vessels.  
 A railway service in Trinidad.  
 A telegraph system worked with the railway.  
 Telephone systems in Trinidad and Tobago.  
 An inland postal system on up-to-date lines.  
 Motor vehicles of all kinds.  
 Fair main and local roads, maintained in as good condition as possible.

#### PORT SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

385. Due to increased activities in the port it was found necessary to coordinate all port services under the control of a general manager. This was agreed to by Government in 1947 to be implemented as from 1st January 1948.

386. The services affected are :—

- (a) wharves and harbours (including dredging and towage services).
- (b) slipways.
- (c) coastal steamers.
- (d) island services.
- (e) lighthouses, signal stations, &c.

#### *Shipping :*

387. During the year, shipping passing through the Colony amounted to 10½ million net tons. This was an increase of 2 million net tons over the previous year, and a 100 per cent. increase over the 1937 figures.

388. This figure is mainly accounted for by increases in U.S.A. tonnage of 880,062, Panamanian 310,817 tons, British 184,872 tons, Venezuelan 162,640 tons, Greek 155,286 tons and French 144,462 tons.

389. Intercolonial sailing traffic consisted of 35,000 tons of British and 4,000 tons of Venezuelan shipping which was a total decrease of 3,000 tons from the previous year.

390. In 1947 there were 3,106 steam or motor vessels of all nationalities, with a total net tonnage of 10,308,098 which entered Trinidad. Of these, 781 were British with a tonnage of 2,065,074. United States ships numbered 1,304 with a net tonnage of 5,366,187, while ships of twenty-one other nationalities amounted to 1,021 with a net tonnage of 2,876,837.

391. In 1946, 2,383 steam or motor vessels with a net tonnage of 8,224,405 called here. British ships numbered 566, their total tonnage being 1,880,202 : United States of America ships comprised 1,077 of a tonnage of 4,486,125, and ships of twenty-four other nationalities totalled 740 with a net tonnage of 1,858,078.

392. The largest steamer to berth alongside at Port-of-Spain during the year was the s.s. *Almanzora* of 15,555 net tons.

393. A comparative statement for the years 1946 and 1947 is given below in respect of cargo imported into and exported from the Colony.

<i>Cargo passing over Government Wharves</i>		<i>Imports Tons</i>		<i>Exports Tons</i>	
		1946	1947	1946	1947
general cargo including transhipment ...		365,779	459,156	130,994	160,380
coal ...		66,176	90,111	4,976	5,092
bauxite ...		64,647	205,262	63,682	162,019
molasses ...		6,921	11,308	5,079	10,557
<i>cargo passing through coastal ports</i>					
bauxite ...		867,601	1,365,277	849,325	1,227,923
petroleum products ...		353,529	1,058,687*	1,686,380	1,620,940*
general cargo ...		35,006	55,076	32,700	37,477
direct transhipment ...		3,259	4,656	3,259	4,656
		<u>1,762,918</u>	<u>3,249,533</u>	<u>2,776,395</u>	<u>3,229,044</u>

\* Includes asphalt.

#### *Meteorological reports :*

394. Arrangements were made for the dissemination of weather reports by the Meteorological Officer at Piarco to shipping in the vicinity of Trinidad and to the Northern West Indian islands.

395. This will be especially useful during the hurricane season.

#### *Marine Examinations for Intercolonial certificates of competency :*

396. The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance No. 2 of 1946 and the Merchant Shipping (Examinations for Certificates of Competency) Rules 1946 enabled and laid down the procedure for marine examinations to be held in Trinidad.

397. With the harbour master as chief examiner, a board of examiners was appointed to carry out the examination of candidates for intercolonial masters, mates and engineers certificates of competency.

398. During the year three examinations were held at which three intercolonial masters' certificates and three intercolonial mates' certificates were issued to successful candidates.



399. Hitherto the only centre in the British West Indies for marine examinations was Kingston, Jamaica.

*Tourist trade.*

400. Construction of a passenger centre by the Trinidad and Tobago Tourist Board was started in October 1947.

401. The centre will provide facilities for the successful handling of tourists and passengers generally.

#### RAILWAYS

402. The Trinidad Government Railway has a route mileage of 118 miles and a track mileage of 153 miles, including sidings.

403. There were no extensions of railway operations in 1947, the general trend at present being a decline from the extraordinary peak which was reached during the war years. The shortage of motor vehicles and tyres curtailed road transport and threw the main burden of transportation on the railway which reached its maximum in 1945. With the influx of new road vehicles into the Colony in 1946 and 1947, and the sale of surplus vehicles by the Imperial and U.S.A. naval and military authorities, road competition has made rapid strides and has already greatly exceeded pre-war levels. Despite this, however, the railway carried 3,580,000 passengers which is approximately 200 per cent. above 1937. Goods traffic at 450,000 tons was however back to the general pre-war level.

404. The cost of operation has increased by the steady rise in prices of materials, which shows no sign of reaching the top, while wage levels have risen steadily with the cost of living and an adjustment of the temporary war allowance during 1947 added very considerably to the expenditure. The revenue is falling steadily as traffic returns to normal, the increased fares and freight rates bearing no comparison with the operating costs; third class passenger fares being still under one penny per mile. The result is an increasing annual deficit which can only be reduced by a rational control of the whole transport of the Colony and adjustment of railway operations to the traffic it is best suited to handle, with the elimination of wasteful competition.

405. In November a door-to-door service was started which shewed a steady increase in popularity each week to the end of the year, although operations are still on a small scale.

406. Two diesel-electric locomotives were purchased from the United States Army Transportation Corps together with a supply of spare parts when that organisation ceased to operate over the railway system, also a number of tank wagons and other goods vehicles. Some of the latter were immediately available for service, some needed major overhaul before going into service, while a small proportion were scrapped to obtain spares for the repair of the other vehicles.

*Ancillary services :*

407. The omnibus routes from railhead to the remote corners of the island were maintained throughout the year. Worn-out vehicles were replaced but unfortunately motor truck chassis with locally built bodies or reconditioned steel bodies had to be used in the absence of properly designed and constructed omnibuses. The continued use of light buses and improvised buses is unsatisfactory both from the point of view of passengers' comfort and cost of maintenance.

408. Four million two hundred and twenty thousand passengers were carried by the road services during 1947 as compared with 4,581,738 in 1946 which was the record year for omnibus traffic.

409. The omnibus service in Tobago was reorganised in June, with a greatly increased revenue resulting from this service. The garage at Scarborough was extended and a garage with rest quarters for the crew was erected at Charlotteville.

*Telegraphs :*

410. The telegraph system, comprising 41 internal telegraph offices, while primarily for railway operation, is also the only commercial telegraph system in the Colony, and continued use is made of this service by the public. The low rate of one cent per word has not been increased during the war, but there appears to be little increase in the use of this means of communication. The average commercial traffic is approximately 6,500 messages per annum with little variation, but departmental messages amount to over a quarter of a million per annum.

## DEPARTMENT OF WORKS AND HYDRAULICS.

*Administrative :*

411. In 1947, the separate departments of Hydraulics and Public Works were amalgamated and became the Department of Works and Hydraulics. Practically all the administrative details of the amalgamation are now completed and in brief the re-organization has taken the following lines.

412. The directorate comprises the Director and his deputy, who are assisted by two assistant directors, and they control six specialist branches. The largest branch is that which deals with communications and buildings and this is supervised by the first assistant director. All normal civil engineering requirements are executed by this branch and the whole administration of personnel and supporting activities such as transport, &c. have been grouped under the second assistant director to serve the whole department. A sub-branch undertakes survey, design and development.

413. There are four technical branches undertaking architectural, drainage, water and mechanical works.

414. The administrative branch is responsible for the accounting, stores and correspondence of the Department.

*Technology :*

415. Due to the shortage of engineers a comprehensive engineering training scheme has been started during the year, and twelve student engineers are working on a five-years course which will enable them to qualify in the civil engineering profession. Plans have been made to increase the number of students to thirty-six within the next five years. Thus after the fifth year, it should be possible for six qualified men to enter the service of the Department each year. A comprehensive training scheme for apprentices is also well under way.

*Roads :*

416. Modern equipment for road resurfacing by mechanical means which will result in improved road conditions and economy of maintenance has been delivered. The Caroni Savannah road was improved for a distance of 3.25 miles, and the construction of the embankment and base foundation was almost completed during the year. Work on the reconstruction of many bridges is progressing. This will form part of the new South Trunk Road linking Port-of-Spain to San Fernando. On the San Fernando by-pass, begun in 1944, which also forms part of the South Trunk Road, the road way, cycle tracks and foot paths were proceeded with during 1947.

417. The bridge at Guaracara had to be replaced by a temporary bridge pending the arrival of the steel work for the new bridge which is now under construction. South of San Fernando the Southern Main Road was reconstructed over certain lengths. The scenic North Coast Road has been widened and strengthened and considerable lengths of safety fencing have been erected at the danger points.

418. In addition to these main works on the roads, general minor improvements have been carried out. There are nearly 2,500 miles of road in the Colony.

*Wireless Telegraphy.*

419. The work of the wireless telegraphy branch shewed considerable increase in traffic during the year, and a radio telephone service was opened between Trinidad and Tobago.

*Buildings :*

420. The newly created architectural branch supervised the following works during the year :—

*Colonial Hospital, Port-of-Spain :*

421. A new porters' lodge with facilities for the waiting public was erected and structural work completed. Due to the difficulty of fabricating iron work in the Colony it has not yet been possible to complete the gates and railings which form part of this project. This work was carried out by contract.

422. An additional two wings were added to the nurses' hostel, which completed the scheme, and some progress was made in the installation of the outstanding kitchen equipment, most of which was received from the United Kingdom and installed under contract.

423. A start was made on the new laundry and boiler house block. This work is being carried out by a local contractor at an estimated cost of \$292,000.

*St. Ann's Mental Hospital :*

424. The building of the male isolation ward at St. Ann's mental hospital was completed and is now in use.

425. The structural work on the laundry block at this institution was completed for some time and the laundry equipment which has been ordered from the United Kingdom is awaited.

*Colonial Hospital, San Fernando :*

426. The contract for the last wing of the nurses' hostel, San Fernando, was completed.

427. Work on the foundations to the new hospital at San Fernando progressed, and the majority of the foundations with the exception of the kitchen and garage wings are now completed.

*Tuberculosis Sanatorium :*

428. Work continued on the administration and ward blocks, the nurses' hostel. The majority of the structural work for both of these projects was completed under contract. Delay in receipt of specialist equipment and apparatus ordered from the United Kingdom held up final completion of this scheme.

*Central Training Institute and Farm School :*

429. The majority of the structural work for Contract " A " comprising community centre, laboratories, lecture rooms, office, &c. was completed but the completion of the contract was delayed by lack of certain materials and also pending a decision regarding certain additions and alterations which have been recommended and are now under consideration. The scheme has since had to be suspended for financial reasons.

*Magistrates' Court, San Fernando :*

430. This new building was erected on a prominent site at San Fernando, the structural work is completed and only minor details remain to be carried out. It is hoped that this project, which was carried out by contract, will be completed by the middle of 1948.

*Rural Dispensaries :*

431. Rural dispensaries at Blanchisseuse, Biche, Debe and Sangre Grande were built by direct labour and handed over to the Health Department during the year.

432. Work was commenced on rural dispensaries at Point Fortin and Sans Souci. The majority of these rural dispensaries have nurses' quarters attached.

*Educational buildings :*

433. Extension of the Tunapuna Government school was completed providing additional accommodation for one hundred pupils.

434. Quarters for the head teacher, La Pastora Government school, were completed.

435. A start was made on the erection of a new school at Penal-Quinam for two hundred and fifty pupils. Eventually this school will include quarters for head teacher and two assistant teachers.

*Courts and public offices :*

436. Replacement of the old post office at Guayaguayare was pushed ahead as the existing building was in danger of being washed away by the sea. Structural work was completed but certain internal details have still to be carried out.

437. A new office at the Government farm, St. Joseph, was erected and handed over to the Agricultural Department.

438. The demonstration station at Rio Claro was completed in 1947, and a start was made on other demonstration stations at Sangre Grande and in the Oropouche area.

*General :*

439. A considerable amount of building work was done during the year in spite of difficulties encountered in the supply of materials such as cement, nails, reinforcing steel, &c. A steady rise in cost of all the essential materials for building work was particularly marked in the case of bricks, hollow clay tiles, cement and lumber. In addition, there has been a rapid rise in the price of specialist equipment, sanitary fittings and other gear. The uncertainty of supply and the increase in prices of materials made estimating and keeping within estimates a hard task.

*Drainage and reclamation :*

440. Design and supervision of the works have been undertaken by the newly created drainage and reclamation branch as follows :

441. Continued work in the Caroni irrigation area included the development of the low lying area of Cacandee. The total rainfall in 1947 was substantially below the average and a virtual drought existed in February, March and April. In spite of this, the irrigation scheme enabled 1,700 acres of rice to be planted and the crop was satisfactory. This is an increase of 400 acres over the area planted in 1946.

442. The Laventille reclamation project was closed down and the plant dispersed. A new scheme for the reclamation of the swamp area for industrial and housing purposes was prepared in conjunction with the town planning officer of the Planning and Housing Commission.

*Anti-malarial and sanitation works :*

443. Routine river clearing and anti-malarial works, which are necessary annually, were undertaken, comprising chiefly the improvement of drainage for new settlements in built-up areas, in addition to the maintenance of existing drains and siphons.

444. Survey work was carried out on an increased scale in order to complete plans for future drainage and irrigation schemes in the outlying districts including Sangre Grande, Tacarigua River, Carapichaima and Cedros.

*Rainfall statistics :*

445. The collation of rainfall statistics formerly undertaken by the Department of Agriculture was taken over by the Department of Works during 1947, and a hydrographical section of the drainage and reclamation branch was being formed. The work included the gauging of rivers, the heights of tides and the recording of rainfall, in addition to the collation of statistical data.

446. The preliminary work in surveying existing rain gauge sites and apparatus is practically completed and an improved system of measurement with automatic gauges has been introduced. Only one minor flood was recorded during the very dry year of 1947.

*Water :*

447. Emphasis has been laid on the necessity for more adequate water supply over the whole of Trinidad and Tobago during 1947.

448. Work on the Caura Dam continued and many small rural water supply schemes were installed in outlying districts including the extension of existing mains. Construction of the Hillsborough Dam in Tobago continued satisfactorily. Investigations and surveys for the island wide water supply scheme were undertaken on a very wide basis, and a large number of borehole tests were made with a view to supplementing the impounded supplies not only in the north of Trinidad where the demand is greatest, but south of San Fernando also.

AVIATION

449. The British West Indian Airways Company which had been in operation through the Caribbean since 1941 was bought by British South American Airways in 1947. Pending the reorganisation of the company an interim company, British International Air Lines, took over the routes, licences and agreements of British West Indian Airways and continued to operate a creditable service.

450. Besides British South American Airways, Pan American Airways and K.L.M. Air Lines link Trinidad with all parts of the world.

451. During 1947 the number of aircraft arriving from outside territory totalled 10,130 conveying 34,028 passengers.

452. There are two civil airfields in the Colony, one at Piarco and the other at Crown Point, the south-western tip of Tobago. There is an emergency landing field at Toco (north Trinidad).

453. The extension of Piarco airport runway to a length of 7,000 ft., which was reported almost complete in 1946, is now in full operation and constitutes one of the best flying fields in the West Indies. Plans have been prepared for a new layout and new administration buildings which will provide increased accommodation for passengers and better facilities for aircraft.

454. This Colony was represented at a colonial civil aviation conference in the United Kingdom by the Director of Civil Aviation. At the conference there were representatives of over thirty colonial territories and in the course of fourteen meetings, eleven major conclusions and recommendations were reached. Some steps have been taken as a result of these conclusions and recommendations.

455. During the year several requests for permission to visit the airport were received and granted. These requests were received from schools, agricultural and cultural societies which were all granted full facilities during their visits.

456. In order to provide instrument training and practice facilities, a Link instrument trainer was purchased and installed in the city office of the department late in the year. The availability of this facility has been drawn to the attention of British International Air Lines whose pilots have indicated keen interest in its use for practice purposes.

#### POSTAL

457. The General Post Office is at Port-of-Spain and there are head post offices at San Fernando and at Scarborough, Tobago. There are 136 district post offices and agencies throughout the Colony. A new agency was opened in Freeport in September.

458. All internal mail services by rail and motor have been fully maintained throughout the year, and there is a daily service to all outlying post offices.

459. External mail services by air and steamer have been regularly maintained. Owing to its central position Trinidad deals with a large amount of transit mail.

460. There are 44 money or postal order offices throughout the Colony, and 6 sub-offices and 18 postal agencies, in addition to the usual postal facilities, pay postal orders. Money orders were issued to the value of \$2,026,243.28 during the year, as compared with \$2,298,084.42 in 1946.

461. Letters and post-cards (excluding air mail) dealt with were as follows :—

	1946	1947
Inland ... ..	4,283,084	5,600,031
Outwards :—		
United Kingdom ... ..	85,904	64,232
United States ... ..	93,940	97,048
Canada ... ..	30,604	27,076
other places ... ..	84,980	67,256
Inward :—		
United Kingdom ... ..	276,834	376,650
other places ... ..	1,084,944	1,107,024

462. The estimated number of air mail letters dealt with during the past three years is as follows :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Despatched</i>	<i>Received</i>	<i>Transit</i>	<i>Total</i>
1945 ...	1,693,550	2,330,600	365,167	4,389,317
1946 ...	2,547,225	3,282,170	498,148	6,327,543
1947 ...	5,944,204	5,874,086	1,869,288	13,687,587

The year 1947 showing an increase of 115 per cent. over 1946 ; while the total number of letters including airmail received in open transit and despatched to other countries was 1,927,593 in 1947 as compared with 523,548 in 1948.

463. Services amounting to \$86,276.22 were rendered free to other Government departments during the year.

#### GOVERNMENT WIRELESS SERVICES

464. Prior to 15th April, 1946, radiotelegraph circuits were in operation between Trinidad and ships-at-sea, and with the following places :

Venezuela, Martinique and Guadeloupe, Paramaribo and Tobago.

465. On 15th April, 1946, the aeronautical wireless station at Piarco which was operated by the Royal Air Force during the war was taken over by Government. Communication with the following places was continued :—

Montreal, Bermuda, Nassau, Belize, Jamaica, Natal and Bathurst.



466. One of the main functions of the Piarco station is to facilitate the Air Ministry's meteorological service in this area and the bulk of the traffic exchanged with the places mentioned above consisted of messages in connection with that service. In addition, an air-ground circuit was made available to any aircraft wishing to use this facility.

467. United States weather broadcasts are copied at the station for use of the meteorological office.

468. Reception of the London press service (previously undertaken by the information officer's wireless officer) was undertaken by this branch in August.

469. Point-to-point services, both aeronautical and civilian, are almost entirely concentrated at the Piarco station while the service with ships is operated through the wireless station at North Post. The reliable range of the latter station is only about 300 miles owing to lack of equipment.

#### *Radio-Phone service :*

470. Operated by the Trinidad Consolidated Telephones Limited in association with Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd., is a radio-phone service linking Trinidad with Tobago, Barbados and other West Indian islands, British Guiana, the United States, Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico (direct and *via* Miami), Panama, Paramaribo.

471. In addition to the above, the following services are operated by Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd :—

472. *Cables* : There are two cables from the Trinidad Branch of Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd., one to Barbados direct by which telegrams can reach all parts of the world, and one to Grenada which connects with Barbados *via* various other West Indian islands. In the event of interruption of the cables, a wireless telegraph circuit can be used to maintain communication.

473. *Wireless* : Except in the event of cable interruptions, wireless telephone circuits only are operated in conjunction with Trinidad Consolidated Telephone Company. A subscriber can speak from any part of the island. Further services are projected.

474. Wireless Services at present worked are as follows :—

*Via Miami* :—U.S.A., Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Panama Canal Zone.

*Via Barbados* :—United Kingdom, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Dominica, Antigua, St. Kitts, Montserrat.

*Direct* : Paramaribo, Puerto Rico, Barbados, Jamaica, Georgetown, Tobago.

## COMMUNICATIONS. (TOBAGO).

475. British West Indian Airways, now British International Air Lines, operate an efficient Air Service between Trinidad and Tobago (on Mondays, Wednesday, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays) carrying passengers and mails.

476. The coastal steamers—s.s. “Trinidad” and s.s. “Tobago”—carry freight and passengers twice a week from Scarborough and Port-of-Spain. Once a fortnight, one of the coastal steamers makes a trip round the island loading and unloading freight.

477. The Trinidad Government Railway Ancillary (Bus Service) Tobago began operating in 1944 and maintains a regular passenger transport service from Scarborough to outlying districts.

478. The average number of passengers who travelled by these buses at the beginning of the year was 22,500 a month, which increased to 32,200 a month during the latter part of the year. In 1947, a total number of 357,921 passengers was carried, an increase of 51,404 as compared with 1946.

479. The total mileage travelled by buses during the year 1947 was 257,300 miles.

480. The revenue collected in the year 1947 was \$83,165.98 as compared with \$72,826.23 in 1946.

## PART III

## Chapter I : Geography and Climate

481. Trinidad and Tobago are the most southerly of the chain of islands known as the West Indies.

482. It is customary to describe Trinidad as situated at the extreme south of this chain, lying between  $10^{\circ} 2'$  and  $10^{\circ} 50'$  north latitude, and  $60^{\circ} 55'$  and  $61^{\circ} 56'$  west longitude. Trinidad is 4,005 miles by sea from London, 2,352 miles from Halifax, Canada, and 1,958 miles from New York.

483. Geologically Trinidad is a part of the South American Continent from which it has been severed by natural causes. The island is situate immediately opposite to the delta of the great Orinoco River, and is very near to the mainland of Venezuela, from which it is separated by the comparatively shallow and land locked Gulf of Paria, which is one of the safest harbours in the world. Trinidad is the second largest of the British West Indian islands. In point of size it compares with the County of Lancashire. The area is 1,863 square miles ; average length 50 miles, and breadth  $37\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

484. Three mountain ranges, running east to west, almost parallel to, and nearly equidistant from each other, traverse the island.

485. Between the northern and central ranges the country is flat and well watered, but the land to the south of the central range is undulating, and the water supply is poor.

486. The three most important rivers are the Caroni, which drains the north-western portion of the island, the Ortoire or Guatare, which drains the south-eastern section and the Oropouche the north-east.

487. The climate of the two islands is tropical. The average annual temperature in daylight is  $84^{\circ}\text{F}$ . and at night it averages  $74^{\circ}\text{F}$ . There is comparatively little variation throughout the year.

488. In Port-of-Spain the average annual rainfall is about 64 inches. In other districts it ranges in normal seasons from about 50 to 120 inches. There is a well marked dry season from January to May and a wet season from June to December. Even in the rainy season the greater part of the day is usually fine, the rain falling in heavy showers.

489. Tobago lies between  $11^{\circ} 8'$  and  $11^{\circ} 21'$  north latitude and  $60^{\circ} 30'$  and  $60^{\circ} 50'$  west longitude, distance from Barbados 120 miles, from Grenada 75 miles and from Trinidad 26 miles. It is 26 miles long and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles at its greatest breadth, and has an area of 116 square miles (74,392 acres) of which about 42,000 acres are under cultivation.

490. The formation of the island is volcanic. Its physical aspect is irregular and picturesque, with conical hills and ridges, which descend from a common base or dorsal ridge 1,800 ft. high and 18 miles in length.

491. A unique feature is Little Tobago or Bird of Paradise Island, the only place in the Western Hemisphere, where these birds can be seen in their wild state. This island lies about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the north-eastern coast of Tobago, and is less than 300 acres in extent. Its hilly surface is covered with natural vegetation including palms, giant aroids and broad-leaved trees of large stature, where these tropical birds may nest in security. Little Tobago was purchased by Sir William Ingram in 1908 for the purpose of creating a sanctuary for the Birds of Paradise, a species which at that time, was thought to be in imminent danger of extinction in its natural habitat, the Malay Archipelago. The island was presented to Government by the sons of Sir William Ingram on the condition that it should be retained in perpetuity as an asylum for the birds. With the aid of a Government grant, the place is well maintained. Fruit trees of various kinds are cultivated in order to provide food for the birds, and during the dry season a sufficient supply of water from the mainland is brought over by boat. Persons who wish to visit the Island are allowed to do so.

492. The climate in the dry season is delightful. In the wet season it is damp and hot.

493. The average rainfall for the last 5 years was 60 inches and the average mean temperature was 80 degrees in the shade.

## Chapter 2 : History

## TRINIDAD

494. Whether the name " La Trinidad " or " The Trinity " bestowed by the great Christopher Columbus was the outcome of his sighting three mountain peaks on the island itself, his glimpse of a similar range on the nearby island of Tobago, the sentimental consequence of a vow he took while in peril from the sea, or the resultant emotional reaction of a combination of all these experiences on a man who, from his own account, was very ill at the time, is still controversial. The aboriginal Indians called the island " Iere " or " The Land of the Humming Bird ", a name aesthetically apt to quite recent times.

495. For almost two centuries after discovery, Trinidad remained as undeveloped as it was prior to the advent of the great navigator. Two feeble attempts were made by Spain to colonise it in 1532 and 1577. In 1595 Sir Robert Dudley visited the island and, from his own account, explored it to some extent. In the same year Sir Walter Raleigh made a short stay in it in the course of his ill-starred voyage in search of the fabled city of El Dorado. He attacked and burned San José (St. Joseph), the then capital.

496. In the 17th century when rivalry among the principal maritime powers of Europe was at its height, with piracy and buccaneering as the bloody accompaniment, Trinidad was raided in turn by French, Dutch and English. These raids with all their attendant evils had a unifying effect on the activities of the inhabitants to some extent, for there was a surprising growth of trade in 1695, despite the ban placed by Spain on commercial intercourse between her nationals and foreigners.

497. On 18th February 1797, articles of capitulation were signed by two principals, Sir Ralph Abercromby on behalf of Britain and Don José Maria Chacon, the Spanish governor, on behalf of Spain, by which Britain's sovereignty over the island was recognised. The final cession of the Colony took place in 1802 under the Treaty of Amiens.

498. Sir Thomas Picton, the first British governor, assumed the administration at one of the most chaotic periods in the history of Trinidad. In the words of a respected resident at the time, the community was composed of " refugees and desperate characters, who have been implicated in the rebellions and massacres of all the neighbouring islands ". In addition, there were the fast-dwindling aboriginal inhabitants scattered, listless and apathetic, and a shiftless, dissatisfied body of Spanish settlers.

499. These conditions were the outcome of the efforts made by Spain in 1783, on the suggestions of a Frenchman M. Saint-Laurent, to attract new settlers. Thus, added to the confusion

inevitable on a military occupation were the squabbles over the reallocation of lands on the influx of the newcomers, and the apparent hesitancy by the conquerors at first to adopt the existing Spanish code of laws.

500. This anomaly of a British possession being administered under Spanish laws continued, with various changes which gradually displaced the Spanish code by English procedure and legislation, almost to the present day. The Spanish Municipal Authority, the "Illustrious Board of the Cabildo", was also retained as an administrative body until 1840, when certain changes were made both in its composition and the exercise of its authority, and it was renamed the "Town Council". Through a series of titles—"Borough Council", "Town Commissioners, &c."—it has emerged into the present body, designated the "City Council". Earlier another body, the Council of Advice", set up by Sir Thomas Picton in 1797, evolved into the "Council of Government" in 1831 and the subsequent "Legislative Council" which is in existence today.

501. The development of the Colony has proceeded on comparatively peaceful and constitutional lines. As long ago as 1802, on the conclusion of hostilities between England and Spain, the inhabitants of the colony, fearing that the island might be handed over to some other power by Britain in return for some concession elsewhere, petitioned the governor, praying that the island should remain under British rule. Evidently British rule had already, despite the vicissitudes of administration begun to reconcile the discordant elements in the colony and prepare the way for the evident progress of today.

502. Curiously, Spain was the first European colonial power to abolish slavery in its territories. This gesture took place in 1690 when an edict was passed to this end; but it pertained to the aboriginal Indians and applied to Trinidad only. Spain could not, however, maintain this moral rectitude for long. Under economic pressure she introduced Negro slavery soon after.

503. This system of human exploitation has had a profound influence on the inhabitants, socially, morally and artistically. And so has had the related system of East Indian immigration which followed eleven years after the abolition of slavery by Britain in 1834.

504. The vast areas of cocoa and sugar cane, staple crops of the island and its mainstay before the discovery of oil, owe their cultivation to these two systems of human labour which disappeared when they were no longer economically tenable in the face of the rising Industrial Age. The trade balance is principally maintained by the exportation of oil and its by-products of which the Colony is the largest producer in the British Empire.

505. One of the greatest problems the administration has had to deal with in the colony is the devising of a satisfactory system of education. While the basis of this must remain English, the complex nature of a cosmopolitan community has demanded a broadening of this basis to avoid the wounding of a variety of racial susceptibilities. This can be appreciated when, in addition to the officially recognised government-aided primary and secondary schools of high standard in every important centre of the colony, there are private Muslims schools, Hindu schools, a Chinese school and a Spanish school staffed by Venezuelans from the neighbouring Republic. However, students from the Colony hold their own and even outstrip others in the best Universities of Europe and America. The present trend of education is undoubtedly from the purely academic to the technical and more immediately practical form of studies in keeping with the tendency accelerated by the war. Among the people handicraft, co-operatives, and back-to-the-land movement are noticeable. A number of "Youth Councils" or associations of young people seeking, in addition, a moral uplift, has made a welcome appearance.

506. Social welfare work, touching every aspect of the community, has long been successfully carried on by several religious bodies the most outstanding being that of the Roman Catholic Church to which the majority of the Christian inhabitants belong, chiefly as a result of the original conditions Spain attached to settlement in the island. Government has in recent years augmented this work by creating a department of its own with trained officers.

507. The Health Departments both of the Municipality and the Government are doing good work in hospital administration and the enlightening of the individual by lectures and hygienic demonstrations. Gone are the days of epidemics, rampant preventable diseases, and an undue high percentage of infant mortality.

508. An agricultural department with a trained technical staff and the Imperial College of Agriculture founded in 1921 keep the Colony abreast with the latest discoveries tending to the improvement of its soil and flora.

509. The Colony has shown progress in almost every sphere of activity. A slum clearance scheme with a housing and planning programme is ridding the town of objectionable and insanitary tenements; an extensive water scheme is planned; hospitals are being enlarged and their equipment brought up to modern standard; and attention is paid to other essentials of welfare. The British Council, which began operation in the colony in 1943, is playing a notable part in the encouragement of art, music and literature.

## TOBAGO.

510. Tobago was discovered by Columbus in 1498, at which time it was occupied by Caribs. It was visited in 1596 by Captain Keymis in the "Darling" and found to be uninhabited. In 1628 a grant of the Island was made by Charles I to the Earl of Pembroke. The Island remained unoccupied until 1632 when 300 Zealanders were sent out by a Company of Dutch merchants who styled it New Walcheren. After a residence of about two years these settlers were all destroyed or expelled by the Indians and Spaniards from Trinidad. In 1641 James Duke of Courland obtained a grant of the island from Charles I and in 1642 two vessels arrived with a number of Courlanders, who settled on the north side. These were followed by a second Dutch Company in 1654, who, having effected a compromise with the Courlanders, established themselves on the southern coast; but in 1658 the Courlanders were overpowered by the Dutch, who remained in possession of the whole island until 1662, when the Dutch Company resigned their right to it. In this year Cornelius Lampsons procured Letters Patent from Louis XIV creating him baron of Tobago and proprietor of the island under the Crown of France.

511. In 1664 the grant of Tobago to the Duke of Courland was renewed by Charles II. The Dutch refused to recognise the Duke's title, but in 1667 they themselves were compelled by the French Admiral Estras to evacuate the island. The Dutch Admiral Binks was defeated in Scarborough Bay, whereupon Louis XIV restored the island to the Duke of Courland who, in 1681, made over his title to a company of London merchants. In 1748, by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle Tobago was declared neutral: the subjects of all European Powers were at liberty to form settlements or carry on commerce but not to place garrisons on it. At the peace of 1763, by the Treaty of Paris, Tobago was ceded by France to England in perpetuity.

512. In 1781 Tobago was captured by the French under Duke of Bouillé after a most gallant defence by the Colonists. In 1783 it was surrendered by Treaty to the French Crown. On 15th April 1793, it was captured by a French Force under Admiral Lefrey and General Cuyler. It was once more restored to the French by the Treaty of Peace in 1802, and again re-conquered in 1803 by Commander Hood and General Greenfield. In 1814 it was finally ceded in perpetuity to the British Crown.

513. Tobago continued to keep its old institutions, its House of Assembly, its Legislative Council, its Privy Council and its numerous Law Courts until 1874 when the House of Assembly was abolished and a one Chamber Legislative Council formed.

514. The abolition of slavery, the great storm of 1847 when most of the sugar works were damaged, the introduction of beet sugar in Europe, the lack of capital and many other factors had by this time resulted in a very depressed state of trade.

515. Tobago finally became a Crown Colony in 1877 at the request of the Legislative Council following the disastrous Belmanna riots at Roxborough which cost the Colony a great deal of money.

516. The fall in the price of sugar and the failure of the Metayer system of cane farming gave the final blow to Tobago's independence and on 1st January 1889 the island was annexed to Trinidad as a joint Colony.

517. Its financial affairs were run separately by a Financial Board and continued until 1st January 1899, when economic conditions had deteriorated to such an extent that the island became a Ward of Trinidad and the revenue and government of both Islands were merged.

518. The Government was formerly administered by a resident Administrator, subordinate to the Governor-in-Chief of the Windward Islands at Grenada, and a Legislative Council was established by an Order in Council of the 7th February 1877 to consist of not less than three persons designated by Her Majesty.

519. By an Order in Council of 17th November 1888, Tobago was amalgamated with Trinidad, the name of the new Colony being Trinidad and Tobago. The latter Island was administered by a Commissioner appointed by the Governor of the United Colony, who was *ex-officio* a member of the Legislative Council. One unofficial member of Council represented Tobago. The Commissioner was assisted by a financial board of five members, two nominated by the Governor, and three elected. The revenue, expenditure and debt of the islands remained distinct, but there was freedom of commercial intercourse between them and the laws of Trinidad were, with some specified exceptions, the laws of both.

520. By an Order in Council of the 20th of October 1898, the Order in Council of November 1888 was almost entirely revoked, and it was provided that the Island of Tobago should become a Ward of the United Colony of Trinidad and Tobago; that the revenue, expenditure and debt of Tobago should be merged in those of the United Colony; that the debt due from Tobago to Trinidad should be cancelled; that (with some specified exceptions) the laws of Trinidad should operate in Tobago, and those of Tobago cease to operate so far as they conflicted with the laws of Trinidad; that all future ordinances of the Legislature of the Colony should extend to Tobago with the proviso that the Legislature should be able to enact special and local ordinances and regulations applicable to Tobago as distinguished from the rest of the Colony.

521. This order in Council was brought into effect on the 1st January 1899, by a Proclamation of the Governor. The post of Commissioner ceased to exist, and the post of Warden was created.



## Chapter 3 : Administration

### *Central Government :*

522. The Constitution of the Colony is prescribed by the Trinidad and Tobago (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1924, as amended by subsequent Orders in 1928, 1941 (2), 1942 and 1945.

523. In 1939 the Constitution provided a majority of official members over elected and nominated members, but the 1941 Order reduced the official members, not including the Governor, who is President of the Council, to three (the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney General and the Financial Secretary), and increased the elected members from seven to nine. The nominated members remain six in number.

524. The Executive Council, the composition of which is controlled by Royal Instructions passed in 1924, and 1941 has the same *ex-officio* members as the Legislative Council, as well as one nominated and four elected members.

525. On the 3rd August 1945 an amending Order in Council was introduced, bringing into effect a new franchise. This step arose out of a recommendation of the West Indian Royal Commission which suggested the introduction of the adult franchise in the West Indian colonies. The Secretary of State therefore directed the Governors concerned to appoint Franchise Committees to make recommendations.

526. The Trinidad and Tobago Committee was appointed on the 16th May 1941 and reported on the 19th November 1943. By a majority vote they recommended adult suffrage, and reduced the qualifications of a legislator.

527. The Order in Council prescribed the following qualifications for election as a member of the Legislative Council. British nationality, adulthood, residence in Colony for at least two years or domiciled in the Colony, qualification as a voter, literacy and property qualification to the value of \$5,000 or over, or producing an income of \$480 per annum or income qualification of \$960 per annum. Government officials, ministers of religion, returning officers, bankrupts, persons under sentence of death or penal servitude or imprisonment for over one year, or persons of unsound mind are disqualified.

528. Voters must be adult and of British nationality, must have the same residential qualification as above and must also have resided in their electoral district for at least six months. Disqualified are bankrupts, persons under sentence of death or penal servitude or imprisonment for a period of over one year and persons of unsound mind.

529. In December 1946 a resolution moved by one of the elected members of the Legislative Council that a committee be appointed to consider the reform of the Constitution was adopted. A Committee was appointed in February 1947 under the Chairmanship of Sir Lennox O'Reilly, K.C. with 19 other members "to consider the reform of the Constitution and to submit proposals to be forwarded to His Majesty's Government for a new Constitution having regard to the fact that (a) within recent years certain Colonies have been granted constitutions which placed them ahead of Trinidad, and (b) it is necessary that, in keeping with the spirit of the times; the people of Trinidad and Tobago should be more fully associated in the management of their own affairs".

530. The Committee completed its deliberations during the year and was expected to submit its report early in 1948.

#### *Local Government :*

531. There are three municipalities in the Colony, one in the City of Port-of-Spain and the others in the Boroughs of San Fernando and Arima. These municipalities are regulated by local ordinances. The adult franchise has not yet been introduced, only qualified burgesses being eligible to vote.

532. The Port-of-Spain Council is comprised of 15 councillors who hold office for three years. One-third of these go out of office each year. Councillors elect five aldermen, and these hold office for three years.

533. The San Fernando Council is of much the same constitution, except that the number of councillors is nine and the number of aldermen three.

534. The Arima Borough Council is also similar, with six councillors and three aldermen.

535. In 1946, seven County Councils were set up in each of the counties or groups of counties in Trinidad and the Island-Ward of Tobago. The elections are on the basis of adult franchise and the number of elected members is 14 in Tobago, varying to eight in some of the other districts. They are presided over by the elected members for the corresponding constituencies of the Legislative Council and are of an advisory nature only.

#### *Franchise :*

536. Under the new franchise, the majority of adults irrespective of sex are now able to vote. The exceptions are a few persons who by nationality or default of a sufficiently long period of residence do not qualify. In numbers the electorate has now risen from about 30,000 to 260,000.

537. The eligibility to vote is now more or less equally divided between the sexes. Women can sit in the Legislative Council. There are two women (nominated) members.

*Elections :*

538. The first general election under the adult franchise was held on the 1st of July 1946 for the Legislative Council. The elections were orderly with no instance of violence recorded. A system of symbols was introduced to enable the large percentage of illiterates to vote. That this was successful was proved by the relatively small percentage of spoilt votes. The response of the electorate was encouraging having regard to the fact that the system was new to the majority of the voters and the weather on that day was inclement. Of a total electorate of 259,512, 137,281 voted, the percentage being 52.9. Rejected ballots were 6.1 per cent.

539. The first general election for County Councils was held on the 28th October 1946. The election procedure was practically the same as for the Legislative Council elections, except that the voters could vote for two candidates on one ballot paper. The election day was orderly and quiet, but the response of the electorate was not so good and only 36.8 per cent. voted. The percentage of rejected votes was 9.2. This increase was probably due to the added complication of voters having to vote for two persons on the same ballot paper.

## DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

540. The Colony of Trinidad and Tobago is divided into administrative districts as follows :—

1. County of St. George, excluding City of Port-of-Spain and Borough of Arima—6 wards.
2. County of Caroni—4 wards.
3. County of Victoria, excluding Borough of San Fernando—5 wards.
4. County of St. Patrick—4 wards.
5. Eastern Counties of St. Andrew, St. David, Nariva and Mayaro—10 wards.
- b. Island Ward of Tobago—7 parishes.

541. The nine elected members of the Legislative Council represent North Port-of-Spain, South Port-of-Spain, San Fernando and the six districts shown above respectively. For the purpose of the County Councils the Eastern Counties have been divided into the two areas of St. Andrew-St. David and Nariva-Mayaro.

542. On 1st January 1947 the County of St. Patrick was re-instituted as a separate unit under district administration. The combined Counties of St. Patrick and Victoria had been jointly administered since 1933.

543. Each administrative district is under a government officer, called a Warden, who, with his staff of officers, supervises the affairs of the several wards. These include the assessment and collection of taxes on land and buildings, the collection of revenue accruing from licences for spirit and wine retailers, clubs, vehicles other than motor vehicles, cinemas, dogs, the removal of timber; land sales and royalties; market and abattoir fees; and other licences and fees over which the Warden has no control e.g. firearm, court fines, hospital dues, &c. The Wardens are also responsible for the maintenance of government lands and buildings, Crown "traces" and fire control, markets and abattoirs, public cemeteries, recreation grounds, game preservation and the preservation of historic sites, the supply of water to areas devoid of water supply, the management of Government schools, and labour bureaux at the Wardens' Offices. Each Warden is statutory chairman of the local health authority, old age pension and poor relief board and fire vigilance committee of his area. In addition he reports to Government on the general health, educational, agricultural conditions, &c., of his area. During the year the Colony rationing scheme was put into effect with the assistance of the Wardens in the county areas.

#### PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS :

544. In the field of public relations, demands upon Government through the medium of the information department are continuous. Adult suffrage has resulted in the enrolment of thousands more persons on the electoral list and there has also been the eligibility of a much larger number of persons for election as representatives of the people in the Legislature. In addition, there has been the inauguration of county councils. It is inevitable that there should be a corresponding increase in the number of those who interest themselves in the functions of the Administration. This development of civic consciousness has led, among other things, to a desire for the exercise of constitutional rights in a variety of ways. Not the least important feature of this development is the urge to know the reasons for acts of Government and the tendency to impose high tests of the standard of service by public officers. Especially in rural areas, any deviation from this standard of expectation is reflected in the desire to pursue the matter in "higher official quarters". Thus it is that the demands upon the information department, as a medium for achieving this end, continue to be exacting and more frequent than before. Experience has shown that knowledge of the existence of a right is the inevitable precursor to the exercise of that right at the earliest possible opportunity.

545. But this growing exercise of the constitutional right of enquiry as to administrative matters, or of complaint, is not restricted to the newly enfranchised. There is growing evidence of less diffidence in the ranks of those who, formerly, were apathetic about the acts of the Administration and of the obligations to the public of the many departments of Government. Apathy is giving way to interest which in turn is manifested, among other ways, in the demand for official publications and documents recording the activities and indicating the policy of Government ; also in a wide range of enquiries which are not without a strong flavour of complaint or criticism at times. The large number of local enquiries of this kind dealt with during the year, especially oral ones, and the interviews sought daily, afford abundant evidence of the need for a stabilised and well equipped public relations department as a means of fostering better understanding between the Government and the governed.

546. During the year 546 official releases were made to the press through the information department, as compared with 570 releases for the previous year. These covered not only regular news bulletins, but also dealt with the activities of Government departments as revealed in progress reports which were edited and re-issued to the press for publication. In every case one hundred per cent. publicity was obtained.

547. Besides the 546 news bulletins referred to above, 167 "hand-outs", or specially written articles supplied from overseas sources—principally the Central Office of Information—were made to the press during 1947. Calculated at 21 inches to the column, the 'hand-outs' during 1947 occupied approximately 232 newspaper columns as against 433 columns in the previous year.

548. In addition to these official press releases, the information department also prepared and issued 30 news bulletins in connection with the Red Cross post-war campaign, which was inaugurated by Lady Shaw as President of the Trinidad and Tobago Branch of the British Red Cross Society in July 1947. Over 50 news bulletins were prepared and issued in connection with the Princess Elizabeth Wedding Gift and Trinidad Memorial Fund launched in September 1947.

549. Eighty-eight 35-mm. films were received during 1947. Of these, 40 came from the Central Office of Information and 48 (including British newsreels) from the British Council.

550. Throughout the year, 35-mm. films were issued by the film librarian of the information department to cinemas, the mental hospital, the leprosarium and one of the mobile cinema units was operated by the Social Welfare Department. There was a total of 2,796 such issues during the year.

551. Ninety-seven 16-mm. films were received during 1947. Of these, 31 came from the Central Office of Information and 66 (including British newsreels) from the British Council. During the year 16-mm. films were issued to cinemas using 16-mm. equipment, to four of the mobile cinema units operated by the Social Welfare Department, the Caribbean Training College at Maracas, some of the secondary schools, private clubs, and individual borrowers. 518 such issues were made up in 1947.

*Weekly newsletter :*

552. On the mailing list of the information department during 1947 there were over fifty-one new overseas addresses to which a weekly newsletter was despatched. Frequently expressions of appreciation are received from recipients of these newsletters which keep them in constant touch with current affairs in this Colony.

## Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

553. The weights and measures used in the Colony are the English weights and measures ; the secondary standards, which are patterns of the Colonial standards are compared with the Colonial standards by the Custodians viz., the Comptroller of Customs and Excise and the Director of Surveys, during the month of April once every three years and the Colonial standards are verified with the standards at the department of the Board of Trade once in every ten years.

## Chapter 5 : Newspapers and Periodicals

554. List of Main Newspapers and Periodicals published in the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago.

### MAIN NEWSPAPERS

<i>Title</i>	<i>Published</i>
<i>Port-of-Spain Gazette</i> ...	daily, except Mondays and day after public holidays
Trinidad Publishing Company's Group, comprising :—	
(i) <i>Sunday Guardian</i> ...	
(ii) <i>Trinidad Guardian</i> ...	daily, except Mondays and day after public holidays
(iii) <i>Evening News</i> ...	daily, except Sundays and public holidays
<i>Catholic News</i> ...	Saturdays only
<i>Caribbean Herald</i> ...	Saturdays only
<i>Vanguard</i> ...	Saturdays only
<i>Sportsman</i> ...	Sundays only
<i>The People</i> ...	Saturdays only

## PERIODICALS

(Alphabetical Order)

<i>Title</i>	<i>Published</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
<i>Al Azan</i> ...	every 100 days	an organ devoted to the cause of Islam.
<i>Arya Samaj Brochure</i> ...	every 100 days	organ of Indian opinion
<i>Arya Sandesh</i> ...	every 100 days	organ of Indian opinion
<i>Callaloo</i> ...	monthly	public affairs review, fiction, humour
<i>Caribbean Medical Journal</i> ...	quarterly	professional
<i>Chiao Sheng</i> ...	every 100 days (published in Chinese)	organ of Chinese opinion
<i>Chien Chiao</i> ...	every 100 days (published in Chinese)	organ of Chinese opinion
<i>Civil Service Review</i> ...	bi-monthly	official organ of the Civil Service Association, Trinidad and Tobago.
<i>C. I. C. Annual</i> ...	annually	school magazine of St. Mary's College of the Immaculate Conception.
<i>Diocese of Trinidad and Tobago</i>	monthly	religious
<i>G. G. Review</i> ...	monthly	commercial
<i>Guardian Guide of Trinidad</i>	annually	reference book
<i>The Hilarian</i> ...	annually	Bishop Anstey's High School magazine.
<i>The Indian</i> ...	monthly	commerce, politics, religion, trade
<i>The Monitor</i> ...	monthly	social and political Organ
<i>The Moravian Church News</i>	quarterly	religious
<i>The Observer</i> ...	monthly	organ of Indian opinion
<i>Proceedings of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago</i>	quarterly	self descriptive
<i>The Queen's Royal College Chronicle</i>	annually	self descriptive
<i>The Sentinel</i> ...	quarterly	organ of Indian opinion
<i>The Teachers' Herald</i>	monthly	cultural and economic
<i>Trinidad Baptist Messenger</i>	bi-monthly	religious
<i>The Trinidad Presbyterian</i> ...	monthly	issued under the auspices of the Presbytery of Trinidad.
<i>Trinidad and Tobago Year Book</i>	annually	reference book
<i>Tropical Agriculture</i> ...	monthly	journal of Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture
<i>Youth</i> ...	quarterly	official organ, Trinidad and Tobago Youth Council.

## Chapter 6 : Bibliography

555. The following publications constitute a selected list of social and economic reports and books on the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago arranged in chronological order :—

Geology of Trinidad, 1860. Part I of the West Indian Survey:  
By G. P. Wall and J. C. Sawkins, F.G.S.

Catalogue of Plants Cultivated in the Royal Botanic Gardens,  
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History of Tobago, 1867: By Henry Iles Woodcock, Chief Justice  
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Trinidad, 1884: By L. A. A. de Verteuil; its Geography, Natural  
resources, Administration and Prospects.

Trinidadians, 1887: By Jose M. Bodu: Chronological review of  
events which occurred in the Island from conquest to 1887.

The Franchise Commission, Trinidad, 1888: Proceedings of the  
Royal Commission to consider and report as to the proposed  
Franchise and division of the Colony into Electoral Districts.

Journal of the Field Naturalists' Club, Volume I, 1892: containing  
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of other similar societies, items concerning explorations and  
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being economical natural history.

Iere, Land of the Humming Bird, 1893: Specially written for the  
Trinidad Court of the World's Fair, Chicago: By Henry James  
Clarke, F.S.S.

Birds of Trinidad, 1894: By Frank M. Chapman.

The Trinidad Reviewer, Parts I and II, 1899-1900: By T. Fitz Evan  
Eversley: containing papers or Essays on all the chief and  
important matters relating to Trinidad either political, agri-  
cultural, commercial, educational, or otherwise.

Little Folks Trinidad, 1901: By Joseph A De Suze: a short des-  
criptive, historical and geographical account of the Island.

Small Pox in Trinidad: By R. Seheult, M.D.: on an epidemic of  
Small Pox of irregular type in Trinidad during 1902-04.

Sea Fish of Trinidad, 1910: By Henry Vincent.

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connection with the progress and prosperity of Trinidad and  
the Author's personal reminiscences of life in the Island from  
1874-1912.

Handbook of Trinidad and Tobago, 1924: By the Government of  
Trinidad and Tobago: Unofficial publication for the use of  
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its Institutions.

Silvicultural Notes, 1930: By R. C. Marshall: notes on the Silvi-  
culture of the more important timber trees of Trinidad and  
Tobago with information on the formation of woods.



**Problems of Trinidad 1933:** By Sir Norman Lamont, Baronet: a collection of speeches and writings on subjects connected with the Colony.

**Emancipation Centenary in the West Indies, 1834-1934:** By Stephen M. Laurence, M.B., C.M., Ex-Member of the Legislative Council, Ex-President of the Medical Board of Trinidad and Tobago, Ex-Member of the Education Board.

**An Outline of the History of Trinidad 1934:** By M. T. Benjamin.

**Guide to Trinidad and Tobago, 2nd Edition 1936-37:** By Ernest C. Digby: a comprehensive guide for tourists and visitors to these Islands.

**Trinidad and Tobago Disturbances, 1937:** Report by Commission.

**The Arena Massacre Trinidad**—documents relating to the massacre of the Governor Don José de Leon Y. Echales, other officials and missionaries at San Francisco de la Arena by Indians on 1st December, 1699: collected and translated by Father P. J. Buissink, P.P., San Rafael, and published by the Historical Society of Trinidad and Tobago, 1938.

**Crusoe's Island in the Caribbean, 1939:** By Bowman and Bowman.

**Fauna of Trinidad, Parts I to V:** By William J. Kaye and others.

**Historical Sketches, in four volumes:** By Dr. K. S. Wise: published with a view to stimulating interest in the past history of the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago.

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**The Sea Fisheries of Trinidad and Tobago:** By Dr. H. H. Brown, M.A., Ph.D.: Development and Welfare Bulletin No. 2.

**The Government of Trinidad and Tobago: Law of the Constitution:** By Charles Reis, Barrister-at-Law, 1st Edition, 1915; 2nd Edition, 1931; 3rd Edition, 1947: brief history of Government and Laws under Spanish and British Rules; 3rd Edition, revised and rewritten, commemorating 150 years of British Rule, 1797-1947.

**Report of the Legislative Council General Elections 1946** published in Trinidad 1947.

Additional information can also be found in the Blue Books of the Colony (up to 1938) and the various Departmental Annual Administration Reports, *Hansards* (Debates in the Legislative Council of Trinidad and Tobago), *Royal Gazettes* and Annual Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure.

## COMMAND AND COLONIAL OFFICE PUBLICATIONS.

- Col. 182 Agriculture in Trinidad and Tobago.
- Cmd. 6070 Labour conditions in the West Indies (Orde Browne).
- Cmd. 6174 West Indian Royal Commission 1938-1939 — Recommendations.
- Col. 184 Development and Welfare in the West Indies 1940-1942 (Stockdale).
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6608 West Indian Royal Commission Report (Moyné).
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- Col. 189 Development and Welfare in the West Indies 1943-1944 (Stockdale).
- Col. 195 Nutrition in the British West Indies (Platt).
- Cmd. 7120 Closer Association of British West Indian Colonies.
- Col. 212 Development and Welfare in the West Indies 1945-1946 (Macpherson).
- Col. 215 Trade Union Organisation and Industrial Relations in Trinidad (Dalley).

Maps of general interest on sale to the Public are as follows:—

- 1 : 150,000 Topographical Map of Trinidad.
- 1 : 50,000 Topographical Map of Trinidad and Tobago in 8 sheets.
- 1 : 250,000 Road Map of Trinidad, Sketch Map of Port-of-Spain.









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